1912

Crime

MAN IS KILLED IN ROW WITH NEGROES

ROME, GA., Aug. 10—James Bolt, aged 25, is dead, and two negroes are probably fatally injured, as a result of a pitched battle between white youths and negroes at a disorderly house on the outskirts of the city this afternoon. The sheriff and a force of deputies rushed to the scene of the trouble and several negroes were arrested. No further trouble is anticipated.

Montgomery Adv
8-11-12

Montgomery Adv, 12-18-12

BAD NEGRO KILLED.

JACKSON, MISS., Dec. 17.—An unidentified negro who shot and slightly wounded Patrolman Joseph White after wresting a pistol from the officer, was killed by a mob here today.

After the shooting the negro took refuge in a nearby house. The house was set on fire and he was shot to death while attempting to escape from the burning structure.

ITALIANS DRIVEN OUT BY BOYCOTT OF NEGROES

Killing of Negro By One of The Italians Said to Have Caused Trouble

Montgomery Adv 3-17-12

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Mar. 16—Italians, those in business, conducting little grocery stores and other establishments, in Bessemer, are leaving this place in numbers, a result of a boycott on the part of negroes of the city. The negroes have boycotted the Italians in business because of the killing of John Chandler, a negro, by Louis Gagliano, an Italian, the negro being shot to death while he was in the custody of an officer and being brought to the Birmingham jail, under a charge of murder. Chandler had been arrested on a charge of murder, he being accused of killing Joe Gagliano, an Italian merchant and brother of Louis. The funeral of Joe Gagliano was going on at the time when Deputy Sheriff Parker was waiting for an electric car with his prisoner. All of a sudden there was shooting and the negro with handcuffs on fell to the sidewalk dead. A moment or two later Italians left the funeral procession and gathered around the prostrated form of the negro and commenced firing bullets into his body. Louis Gagliano is being held for the murder. The negroes then began a boycott and the statement is made that it is having effect, in effect so much that Italian merchants are leaving Bessemer in numbers, either coming to Birmingham or going to Ensley.

DEPT. OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH
REEL 1

Crime – 1912

JONES BROTHERS' CONFESSION CLEARS UP THE MYSTRY SURROUNDING MANY BLOODY MURDERS

Two Men Who Have Been Suspicioned of Knowing About Numerous Killings That Ha ve Made Beats 22. 50 and 18 Notorious in Recent Years Tell Officers of Jefferson County Stories of How and When Puzzling Crimes Were Perpetrated

Mont. Ala. 4

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 15—Walter and Arthur Jones, the two brothers held under indictment for the murder of John Holland, a negro, on July 16, 1911, on Cat Mountain, in the western part of Jefferson County, and who have been under suspicion for participation in the large number of mysterious murders which occurred in and around Coalburg, Arcadia, Lewisburg and other places in Beats 22, 50 and 18, have made a statement to Solicitor Heflin, Special Attorney Borden Burr, Chief Deputy Sheriff Walter Metcalfe, and others confessing to the numerous crimes still at their door.

The confession was given in the sheriff's private office Friday afternoon and there were striking statements made Saturday morning by the accused men.

The story of the crime, burglary, robbery and murder is the most startling ever before revealed and the attorneys and officers are now in possession of information that clears up practically every murder and other crime which has terrorized the western part of Jefferson County for several years, starting with the strike of 1904 and continuing until quite recently.

Duncan Started It.

The unfolding of the crime started with a determination on the part of Sheriff McAdory in November last in placing Deputy Sheriffs Potts and Irving Steele in the Arcadia vicinity, followed by stationing Henry Cole, as deputy sheriff at Arcadia and Potts at Lewisburg. Teck A. Duncan, who knew of many of the crimes committed in the beats mentioned, being accused of turning up an illicit distillery which was operated within sight almost of the commissary of the Pratt Consolidated Coal Company, at Arcadia, and fearing that his days were numbered, communicated information to Deputy Sheriff Cole and the unraveling of the mystery started.

The arrest of Walter and Arthur Jones followed and the charge of killing John Holland, a negro, was placed against them.

Then in startling rapidity information came out as to the killing of John DeArman, W. H. Rhea, George Shoemaker and other white men; Shep Chaney, Will Spencer and other negroes, up to and including no less than twenty-four murders, if not more, including those of B. L. Broom, Will Ellard and Lawrence B. Evans in the last eighteen months.

The confession of Claude Ellard, son of Felix J. Ellard, who was assassinated on the afternoon of March 18, on the road near Lewisburg, which is under investigation by the coroner's jury, started the ball to rolling and the Jones brothers sent for Solicitor Heflin, Special Attorney Burr and others and are said to have expressed a desire to make a statement.

The two men were taken to the sheriff's private office and according to statements made they unbosomed themselves fully, telling of the many things that have happened.

They Talked Freely.

Mr. Burr, when questioned, said that it was true that the Jones brothers had made a statement and had talked freely anent the crimes but not until the proper moment was he at liberty to give out full particulars. He said that the two men had laid bare many things, had told of crimes which were under investigation and of which the two coroner's juries had known much.

Sam Burford, brother of Henry Burford, who was arrested on a charge of murder, in connection with the killing of W. H. Rhea on January 12, 1909, and was released Friday afternoon upon request of the attorneys working in the case, was in the office of C. D. Comstock, attorney for the Jones brothers and he told that attorney that while at the jail Saturday Henry Burford, who has been held since a few days after the killing of Felix Ellard, had given out the information that the two Jones boys had made a full confession of the crimes. Up to that time the attorney in question had not been informed of the confession and said that he did not care to make any statement.

The story of the burglaries, robberies, highway robberies, murders and attempts at murders, in the vicinity of Coalburg, Arcadia, Lewisburg, in Beats 22, 50 and 18, all within ten to fifteen miles of Birmingham, occurred in rapid succession since the 1904 coal miners' strike. Born and raised around that section, living within almost a stone's throw of one another, the Jones boys established for themselves a reputation, it appears, that soon made itself known to everybody, new comers and others.

To the credit of Coroner Brasher, it must be said that without the least [illegible] he went into the district at each murder and made a full investigation each time, but there was evidence, to all appearances now manufactured testimony, that would elicit a verdict of coming to death at the hands of some person unknown or the wrong person would be arrested only to prove an alibi later on.

Negro Shot to Death.

Shep Cheney, negro, a coal miner who had the reputation of being a hard worker, a man who went into the mines at nights, after the day's work was over, in order to load some cars with coal so that his earnings might be large, was shot to death in the mines as he was at work. A few weeks prior to that he had had a quarrel with Ed. Kittrell, a boy, a driver in the mines, and it is believed his complaint to the bank boss or superintendent caused the discharge of Kittrell, who in turn was a great friend to the Jones brothers. That Chaney was to meet death was suspected by some people, in fact the statement is made that some men and boys knew that sooner or later he would go the way of some others. His being found dead, being shot in his room in the mines, caused officers to take stringent methods to put a stop to the crimes of the district.

During the first part of last November a dead negro was found almost every night or morning. Sheriff McAdory sent John Potts and Irving Steele to Arcadia and there they remained through the month. Potts located a still and Chief Deputy Sugg and others destroyed it. Then Will W. Ellard constable in that beat, was killed in Hagan's drug store and the sheriff put Cole at Arcadia and brought Potts back to New Georgia, a part of Lewisburg.

Deputy Sheriffs Hartsfield and McDuff were also placed in the field and several trips were made from the sheriff's office into the district in order to put some stop to the crimes. According to statements made by the Jones brothers, Chief Deputy Sheriff Metcalfe and others raided a crowd of men who were supposed to be gambling and one of the Jones brothers jumped through a window, to make his escape.

When the case had been worked up by Deputy Sheriffs Cole, Potts, Hartsfield and McDuff, the coroner asked the sheriff to assist in selecting juries to investigate the cases. A verdict that the negro came to his death at the hands of the Jones brothers and others was returned.

The Ellard Killing.

When the Felix Ellard assassination startled the entire district and State, Sheriff McAdory was requested to pick another jury and then began an investigation into all murders committed in the Lewisburg and Coalburg district.

The police department arrested Teck A. Duncan on a charge of murdering Felix Ellard and Chief Bodeker placed Paul Cole and John Cole on the case, both men working hard and doing much towards bringing out the evidence that was adduced.

John DeArman, who owned a farm adjoining that of Felix J. Ellard, through some law suit in 1908, got the enmity of old man Ellard. The latter was anxious to get rid of DeArman and is said to have placed a price therefor. Three hundred dollars was offered, it is stated, for this murder, but the men asked to do it failed in the nerve. One day, June 26, 1908, DeArman, who did a peddling business in the camp at Arcadia, came to Birmingham with his wife to get a load of produce. He carried a double-barreled shotgun with him, knowing that he was liable to be killed at any moment by Felix Ellard.

On the way back to the camp he was told that one of the Jones boys had taken up a hog belonging to him, but if he would come to the house and identify the hog it would be turned over to him. At the home of Arthur Jones DeArman got down from his wagon, leaving his gun with his wife, and while walking towards the Jones home was shot down and killed. Arthur Jones claimed to have killed DeArman in self-defense, was given a preliminary trial and acquitted. Mrs. DeArman swore that her husband left his gun on the wagon.

The Rhea Killing.

Will Rhea, son-in-law of DeArman was shot and killed while leading a mule across some little creek, January 12, 1909. He was shot down from ambush. On this killing Claude Ellard confessed to having fired a shot and to have struck Rhea in the breast. Arthur Jones admits being present and firing on Rhea.

George Shoemaker was shot down on a bridge over Five Mile Creek in 1905. The Jones brothers were said to be waiting for another man and misstook Shoemaker for him. Both Jones are said to have shot this man. They admit Shoemaker died a few days later in an infirmary in Birmingham.

Will Spencer, colored, was shot while sitting in a house at Upper Coalburg smoking a cigarette. The window to the house was raised enough to permit a revolver to be placed through the aperture and the shot was true, the negro being killed immediately. Walter Jones handled the pistol. He admits it.

Louis Lowry, a negro known as "Watermelon" because he sold watermelons, was shot and killed at his home in Upper Coalburg, robbed of his money, $8.75, five gallons of oil thrown on him and his body burned to a crisp. Walter Jones was present.

Jim Thomas, colored, was fishing on the creek July 16, 1911, and was fired on and killed, his body falling into the creek, to be found a few days later. Arthur Jones is charged with firing the shot.

Lawrence B. Evans, a mining contractor, was shot October 3 last as he was coming to North Birmingham from Lewisburg in a buggy with Jack Payne. The evidence shows that Walter Jones fired the shot. This is also in the confession.

Robert Malone, colored, was shot and killed December 24, 1910, between the two bridges over Five Mile Creek. Oliver Duckett, colored, was killed in 1909, while firing a boiler at Coalburg. Walter Jones did not fire the shot that killed this negro but was present according to the evidence.

"Handsome" Woodruff, colored, was killed two years ago in the same neighborhood and the Jones boys know all about it. In addition to this there was a strange negro killed near Arcadia by two men who were members of the Jones party. During the 1904 strike a strange negro was shot by a party of men returning from Birmingham and a companion of the negro's was badly hurt.

Robberies, burglaries, assaults and other crimes were numerous. John Miller, who was on friendly terms with the Jones brothers, was shot by them and seriously injured and left that section of the state, moving to Altoona, in Etowah county.

Solicitor Harrington P. Heflin, Special Attorney Borden Burr, in the interest of the State, and Circuit Solicitor J. R. Tate, being sent for by Walter and Arthur Jones, who desired to make a clean breast of their participation in the crimes in and around Coalburg and Lewisburg during the past five years, told both the men that they were to make statement without any promise of immunity or reward and must be voluntary.

A stenographer was prsent and witnesses were sent for, Chief Deputy Sheriff Walter Metcalfe, City Detective John B. Cole, Fred Hudson and others being present when the statements were made.

There was a denial or two to some of the murders considered by the coroner's jury, and on which there was some intimation of the Jones brothers being connected.

The Jones boys were willing for the public to be advised of the statements they had made. It was claimed by these men that much of their downfall could be charged to Felix J. Ellard, deceased, who, they said, had much influence on them.

Governor O'Neal Told.

Special Attorney Borden Burr Friday night informed Governor O'Neal of the confessions being made.

Dictagraphs placed in the cells of the Jones Brothers and in the part of the jail occupied by Teck A. Duncan furnished considerable evidence, though one of the Jones boys discovered the machine in his cell and tore it out.

Mr. Burr, special attorney in the clearing of the situation in beats 22 and 50, including Lewisburg, Coalburg and Arcadia, was pleased Saturday at noon at the result of the investigations so far and when he met representatives of the daily press here he said that the situation was being cleared wonderfully. He said that the Jones boys had spoken out bravely and had made admissions of some worth.

When Will Rhea returned from Tennessee in 1909, Arthur Jones said, in his confession, that Felix J. Ellard sent for him (Jones and told him that unless Rhea was gilled Rhea would kill him (old man Ellard) and Jones. Jones at first refused to kill Rhea thereupon old man Ellard said he would go into the matter and forced Claude and another member of the family and a boy, Luster Carter, to be present. Three shots were fired but Claude Ellard's took effect and killed Rhea.

Walter Jones said that Will Ellard came to him the first of October last and said Lawrence Evans would have to be killed. Felix Ellard had tried to get two other men, whose names were given, to do the work but their nerve failed. Will Ellard promised to give a new Winchester rifle for the killing and Walter undertook the job. Walter stated that he was by himself at the time. When asked why he had shot the man in the back, Jones said that Evans was in a buggy with a man named Payne, against whom there was nothing and it was not proposed to hurt him. When the buggy got by and a good shot could be taken, it was fired. Jones says he only took three cartridges with him for he felt certain the work could be done.

MANY BLOODY CRIMES UNDER INVESTIGATION

Jefferson County Grand Jury Has Started on Busy Week's Work

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 15.—The grand jury Monday began hearing testimony in connection with the crimes in beats 22, 50 and 18. There is enough matter worked up by Solicitor Heflin to keep the inquisitorial body for several days.

In the jail charged with participation with the crimes in beats 22, 50 and 18 at present are the following:

Teck A. Duncan, charged with the murder of Felix J. Ellard on March 18 this year; Arthur and Walter Jones, John Wade and Will Watson, charged with the murder of John Holland, colored, on Cat Mountain, in June, 1911; John Miller, Claude Ellard, George Ellard and Arthur Jones, charged with the murder of W. H. Rhea, on January 12, 1909; Houston Sullivan, charged with the murder of Isiah Johnson, a negro, December 19, 1905; Burns Kittrell, charged with the murder of a negro near Arcadia several years ago; Ed Kittrell and Walter Jones, charged with the murder of Shep Chaney, colored, killed in Mine No. 13 in 1910.

According to confessions and information on hand a number of other murders are laid to the doors of the Jones brothers.

The shooting and serious injuring of Joe Faulk, the superintendent at [illegible] strike

Shooting of Shoemaker.

The two Jones boys told of killing George Shoemaker, white. They were lying in wait for a man named Ragland and Shoemaker came along. He was shot and came near getting the pistol back from Walter when Arthur came upand fired some shots into the victim's body.

Walter told of shooting Will Spencer, colored. Jones was under the influence of liquor. He told of the shooting, giving the name of the man with him at the time and said that white people in the neighborhood were angry because the negroes had moved into the vicinity.

Walter Jones and another man shot and killed Louis Lowry, colored, known as "Watermelon". Jones says that the oil was notthrown on the negro until a second visit was made to the place after the negro was dead.

Shep Chaney, colored, was killed by Walter Jones and another while Ed Kittrell, the boy in jail charged with the murder, stood off and watched.

The Jones boys told the full story of the killing of John Holland, colored, all of which has already been given the public. John Wade lured Holland from home and Will Watson was interested in the killing, Holland having had him arrested on a charge of stealing chickens and vagrancy.

Arthur Jones admitted to killing Robert Malone, colored.

The Jones boys were loud in their denunciation of Felix Ellard, recently assassinated.

Arcadia mines during the [illegible] is cleared. For this a negro named Cochran was sent to the mines and served a sentence. It is asserted that the negro was there but that he did not do any of the shooting but that Teck Duncan, one of the Jones brothers and one or two others of the white men had a hand in the shooting. It will be remembered that Mr. Faulk was hit twice though a number of bullets were fired on him as he was locking the stable door. One bullet knocked off the mining lamp on his cap, while another bullet went through his cheek and still another hit him elsewhere. The men were firing on him from a tall hill several hundred yards away.

The Shoemaker Killing.

According to statements made by Arthur Jones, and which he is anxious that the public should know of, the killing of George Shoemaker in 1905, was practically the undoing of the Jones boys and that was the killing which gave to Felix Ellard his hold on the management of the Jones brothers. There had been some trouble with Henry Ragland. The Jones brothers left the place where the quarrel was and were at the bridge over Five Mile Creek when Shoemaker came along. There was no scrimmage as has been reported but the man was shot down. After the Jones brothers left the place there were several other shots fired on the bridge. Felix Ellard was asked for assistance and he advised that no plea be made of mistaking the man but prepared the plan of avoiding arrest and an alibi. No true bill or investigation to amount to anything followed. But, that affair, said Arthur Jones, gave Felix Ellard a hold that he never failed to work whenever it suited his purposes, in return for the work, it is stated, there was always a willingness to help out in the way of alibis and bonds.

The killing of Will Spencer, colored, in the summer of 1911, was done by Walter Jones, it is claimed, while he was under the influence of liquor. The killing was suggested by others. The Jones boys had nothing against Spencer nor anyone else residing at that house. It was suggested that negroes should not move into that part of the camp. Women took a part in this suggestion, it is stated, and the killing was immediately framed up and it was executed, the idea being that the negroes would move out of that part of the camps.

Local detectives were with Arthur Jones and Houston Sullivan Monday for several hours. They secured much information from the prisoners, which will be worked up. The outside detectives, the Burns men and others, are retiring from the case, one man has been in jail for two or three weeks, being released Sunday night. While the outside detectives furnished considerable information, the main work has been done by local men.

Deputy Sheriffs Chris Hartsfield and Fred McDuff, City Detectives Paul Cole and John B. Cole, Deputy Sheriffs C. Henry Cole and J. B. Potts, have probably done more work on the case than any other men. It is a matter of record that immediately following the Lawrence B. Evans murder, Sheriff McAdory put men to work on the case with instructions to use every effort in breaking up the trouble in the beats involved.

More Work To Be Done.

The work is not finished by a good deal. A number of witnesses have been summoned to appear before the coroner's and the grand juries. The coroner's jury meets Thursday, while the grand jury is receiving witnesses right along on the cases.

Casual inquiry elicits the information that forty-one killings, white and colored men as victims, have occurred in and around Lewisburg, Coalburg, Republic, Arcadia and Mineral Springs in the last seven years. Of course there were trials in some of the cases and men were acquitted.

John Graves was killed in 1910 and J. Herron was acquitted for the same. Willis Whitener was killed in 1904, and three men were tried and acquitted therefor; John Carter, a bank boss, was shot and killed at Republic, and Joe Ash admitted the killing and claimed it was accidental, being discharged at a preliminary; a white man named Beavers was shot and killed in 1909 and a man named Olive, who left there, was accused of the same; a young white man was shot off a train near Mineral Springs just a year ago and a coroner's verdict was rendered after an investigation that the death was from an accident, while the facts are the boy was in a gambling bout and won money and it was planned to get it from him.

Then the killings of John DeArman, on June 26, 1908, who was shot by Arthur Jones, for which he was tried and acquitted at preliminary trial; William Rhea, shot from ambush on January 12, 1909; the killing of George Shoemaker, on the bridge over Five Mile creek, in 1905; M. L. Broom, who was shot down in 1910, while on the porch of Hagan's old drug store, in New Georgia part of Lewisburg.

The killing of Lawrence B. Evans, a close friend of M. L. Broom, followed on October 3, 1911, he being shot from ambush as he rode in a buggy with Jack Payne, the shooting being done by Walter Jones at the request of Felix and Will Ellard, the latter promising to give Walter Jones a new shot gun; then the killing of Will Ellard in Hagan's drug store on a Sunday night in November last, T. L. Hagan being under bond for that killing, was in the series and the final chapter, so far as the white men are concerned, with two or three omissions because of data, was Felix Ellard, the father of Will and Claude Ellard and the men supposed to have had wonderful control over the Jones boys and others who would not hesitate to do his bidding.

Search For Missing Body.

The list of negroes is hard to give by reason of the fact that all colored men who met their fate are not yet located. Arthur Jones Monday gave the location of the body of a negro whose death has not been chronicled and whose bones have not yet been found. As soon as the weatner clears up some it is expected there will be further searching.

The list of negroes include Shep Chaney, shot to death while at work in No. 13 mine; Will Spencer, shot through a window as he was sitting in front of a fire place smoking a cigarette; Lucious or Louis Lowry, known as "Watermelon," who was shot, robbed and his body and little home afterwards burned up; Handsome Woodruff, killed two years ago, being placed under arrest and marched to the home of Joe Faulk in order that it might be shown that it was easy to kill a negro; Sam Thomas, shot to death while fishing on the creek, his body being found four or five days afterwards.

Arthur Jones denies that either he or his brother shot this negro; Robert Malone, killed December 24, 1910, between the bridges at Upper Coalburg; Bud Wilson, killed in 1910, but another negro was tried for this and convicted; Oliver Duckett, killed in 1909, while at work at the boilers at the mines at Coalburg; negro who conducted a boarding house at Republic, was at Coalburg with another negro, both held up and robbed and one of them killed and the other shot, to recover later on; two negroes met up with during the 1904 strike on the road between Upper Coalburg and the Southern Railway station at Coalburg, one shot to death and the other escaped; John Holland, residing on Cat Mountain, was lured away from home June 16, 1911, under the pretext that he was to condition some chickens for a fight, and then shot to death, confessions have been made by three men of this killing. Other negro killings cannot be traced because of inaccuracies of books of former Coroner Paris.

Many Other Crimes.

There were so many other crimes in and around beats 22, 50 and 18 that the officers will have some work for some time to do if they attempt to notice any but the murders. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad is said to have paid for the killing of a mule which it has lately been learned was tied on the tracks in the way of the train. The Southern Railway is now defending a suit to prevent being made to pay for another mule.

The store formerly owned by Mr. Sherman, now owned and operated by Charles Henderson, was robbed more than forty times during the past seven years. Arthur Jones stated Monday that negroes did this work mostly.

The Sloss-Sheffield Steel and Iron company store at Coalburg was robbed several times during the past several years and considerable goods were lost each time. For some years a guard has been employed to watch his store.

Other crimes are known of and the prospects are it will be some time before the whole history

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Crime — 1912

Prison Doors Open So Convicts May Witness Game of Baseball

COMSTOCK, N. Y., July 27.—The gates of Great Meadow prison were opened wide this afternoon and between 400 and 500 convicts assembled in a field near the warden's residence to witness a game of baseball between teams of white and negro convicts. The prisoners were permitted to "root" for their favorite team. The negroes won by a score of 22 to 7.

"I had promised the men," said Warden Homer tonight, "that if the haying was finished by noon today they might have a game of ball. The last load went into the barns on schedule time. Any man who violated a rule this week was to be barred from the game but there were no infractions. The men enjoyed the game and there was no untoward incident. It was an experiment in discipline and it worked to perfection. I probably shall permit other games in the future."

SACRIFICING OUR CITIZENS.

The figures on American homicides assembled by The Spectator, an insurance paper of New York, are surprising, so far as they relate to New York city, and unpleasantly disappointing so far as they relate to large Southern cities. New York makes an astonishingly good showing in this roll of dishonor, in that city the rate of homicides is sixty-nine out of every 100,000 and Brooklyn is not included. If included, Brooklyn would materially decrease the rate for the city of Greater New York. The reputation of the American metropolis as a city in which murders are frequent, is no doubt due to the widespread advertising which is given its homicides. When a man of any prominence is killed or when a murder which is surrounded by a mystery is committed, or when some man is killed publicly and in a spectacular manner, the New York newspaper will ring in all the journalistic effects, and the news agencies put stories about the crime into the columns of every American paper.

A Southern city like Memphis makes a sorry showing when put side by side in the homicide column with New York or Boston. In Boston only 4.8 persons out of every 100,000 are killed. While in Memphis the rate of homicides to the 100,000 population is 64.4 per cent. In Memphis's sister city of Tennessee, Nashville, the rate is almost as appalling for it is shown there that the homicide rate is 35.3 Charleston South Carolina in murder is worse than Nashville, but not so bad as Memphis with its rate of 42.3 persons out of every 100,000 population in the year of 1911 were murdered. In Savannah, Ga., only a few miles from Charleston of 37.8 per cent of murders to every 100,000 of population. San Francisco, regarded for many years as "a bad town," does not show up so badly in the figures of The Spectator, for in San Francisco the rate is 10.4.

The Southern cities generally reflect a state of lawlessness in their number of homicides, which should arouse the better people of those cities to a permanent purpose for reform. The heavy negro population of the Southern cities, is partly responsible, but not wholly responsible, for this discouraging showing. For the negro kills the negro more often than the white man kills the negro and the negro kills the negro more often than the negro kills the white man. But he is not wholly blamable; there are too many reckless killers among the white race, too many who constitute themselves judge, jury and executioner. When such are tried coldly, impartially and determinedly, there will be more men hung and an infinitely fewer number of men killed.

In England and Wales in 1909, with a population of 35,756,000, there were 287 homicides and the rate per 100,000 was 0.8. In these countries the homicide rate for males and females in 1909 was the same. In the United States the rate was over three times as great for males as for females.

In short, England and Wales, though under a monarchy, preserve and protect human life far better than do the American people living under a free government. The lax administration of the criminal law is the one signal weakness of the Republican form of

Walter Brothers

COMMISSION LOOKING INTO FINCH'S DEATH

Charges Preferred Against

INVESTIGATION NOW ON

City Fathers Do Not Place Much Credence in Story of Alleged Cruelty Which Is Related Regarding Demise of Black

Investigation, which bids fair to result in interesting developments, was begun Friday morning by the City Commissioners into charges preferred by Rosa Finch, a negress, against Jesse B. and Duncan Walter, wealthy and prominent farmers operating a 5,000-acre plantation near Sprague Junction, on the Atlantic Coast Line Railway, seventeen miles from Montgomery, that her husband, John Finch was beaten to death there Tuesday afternoon by the Walter brothers, lessees of the city convicts, or by wardens in their employ.

Finch was serving six sentences imposed by Recorder Ludlow Elmore, of six months' duration each. The man died Wednesday and was buried at Sprague Junction, it appears, Thursday morning. Rosa Finch, the negress, who maintains that she is the dead man's wife, alleges that her husband died from the effects of a beating administered Tuesday afternoon at a late hour.

Between 10 and 11 o'clock Friday morning Chief of Police Taylor was approached at his private office by two negro women. One of the women represented herself as Rosa Finch, wife of John Finch, a negro convict, who was serving sentences amounting to three years at hard labor on the plantation of Walter Brothers, city lessees. The other woman, Rosa Finch stated, was merely a friend.

To Chief Taylor the woman, who gave her name as Rosa Finch, related a tale of alleged cruelty which she said had resulted in the death of her husband. It appears that a negress named Carrie Johnson, a friend of Rosa Finch, was released from the Walter Brothers' plantation chain-gang late Thursday afternoon upon the payment of a $15 fine and costs of court imposed upon conviction on a charge of vagrancy. Friday morning she reached Montgomery and, proceeding directly to the home of Rosa Finch, stated that John Finch had died Wednesday morning from the effects of a beating inflicted Tuesday afternoon. She told of the burial of the man Thursday morning.

Conference at Mayor's Office.

Having listened to the story of the Finch woman, Chief Taylor escorted the negresses around to the office of the Mayor, where, summoning Commissioner Patrick McIntyre into the private office of President Gunter, he placed the case before the head of the Department of Justice and called upon Rosa to repeat her complaint. For nearly an hour the conference lasted.

Following the conference with Chief Taylor and the Finch woman, Commissioner McIntyre summoned Jesse B. Walter and his overseer, W. T. Taylor, to appear before the Commission at 1:30 o'clock. At the appointed hour Messrs. Walter and Taylor, and Mr. Pitts, son-in-law of Mr. Walter, were in attendance, and the investigation into the case began.

Mr. Taylor, head warden at the Walter plantation, was examined first. He stated that the negro, John Finch, had been delivered at the Walter plantation with the first batch of prisoners sent out after the lease for the city convicts became effective, January 1. According to Mr. Taylor, the negro refused to work several days later, and at intervals, gave repeated trouble on this score. Mr. Taylor said that four or five weeks ago, he did not remember the exact date, Finch again refused to work and a thrashing was administered with a leather strap weighing less than one pound. Mr. Taylor said that the strap was smooth, had no perforations, and was four pounds lighter than the limit of weight prescribed by the State Convict Department.

Although he did not remember the exact date on which John Finch was whipped, Mr. Taylor was positive in his statement that not one lick had been struck the negro during the present month of February. According to the senior warden, the Finch negro worked in all scarcely more than ten days. He said that the man was taken sick shortly after his arrival at the plantation and that a physician, Dr. Garrett, was summoned. Monday, the overseer said, Dr. Garrett ordered the negro to be removed from his bunk and made to get out in the open field. He stated that the physician left instructions that the man be allowed to take his time in his work. Mr. Taylor was of the opinion that the negro suffered from tuberculosis.

Warden Claims Innocence.

It was the statement of the warden that he had never mistreated the negro convicts worked at the Walter plantation, but, instead, had always shown kindness and leniency towards them. He said that he had been complimented highly on his method of handling the convicts at the farm by State Prison Inspectors whenever calls at the farm were made. He offered any inspector in the State Convict Department as a witness to his statement.

In the statements of the senior warden Mr. Walter concurred, adding only that for over fifteen years he and his brother, Duncan Walter, had worked State convicts and had never mistreated a single one of them. He said that the best of testimonials could be secured from the State authorities, regarding his manner of treatment in handling convict labor. It was likewise the belief of Mr. Walter that the Finch negro died from consumption. Mr. Walter stated that Dr. Garrett had issued a certificate for the death of the negro man and that the certificate would probably be received by the clerk of the Department of Sanitation and Health today.

When bids for the leasing of city convicts for the year 1912 were asked last December, the history of each bidder was investigated by order of the City Commission, and the records of each played no small part in the awarding of the contract for furnishing prisoners for the next twelve months. Inquiries at that time at the office of the State Convict Department elicited the information that Walter Brothers bore the record of being the most lenient and desirable lessees of prisoners in this county. This contract is the first Walter Brothers have ever entered into with the city for convict labor. This is the first controversy in which the planters have ever been involved.

John Finch, the dead negro, was a notorious criminal. Before being convicted in the recorder's court on six separate charges of larceny, Finch, it is stated, served several terms in the State penitentiary, on conviction for larceny.

Finch's Alleged Specialty.

The specialty of the Finch negro, it is stated by the local police, was the theft of cotton, hardware used mostly on farms, agricultural implements, etc. Finch, it appears, would locate his prospective loot, then hire a country negro to go to the location of the property and haul it away.

In one instance the negro he hired was caught by city detectives and sent to Vandiver brothers' farm for a term of three or four months. Shortly after this Finch was caught in the act of placing a roll of wire on a wagon in the rear of the Exchange Hotel. The wire was the property of the Snow-Tullis Hardware Company.

When Finch was convicted on six charges of larceny, it was found that his supposed confederate was innocent of any intended crime and the other negro was released. Finch was convicted of charges calling for sentences totaling three years, only three or four days before the 1912 convict lease was awarded to Walter Brothers.

The negro woman, Carrie Johnson, who bore the story of the alleged killing of John Finch to Rosa, his wife, was sent to the Walter Brothers' plantation for a period of thirty-six days, in default of the payment of a fine of $15 and costs of court, imposed upon conviction on a charge of vagrancy. She served seven days and was paid out by friends.

It was evident after the hearing at the office of the Mayor Friday that little stock was placed by the Commissioners in the story of John Finch having been beaten to death at the Walter Brothers' plantation. However, the case is considered a serious one, and in every phase will be threshed out by the Commissioners. It is possible that the body of the dead negro will be unearthed from its grave at Sprague Junction for post-mortem examination, in an effort to determine if there are any marks of a cruel beating.

STRAIGHT TALK FROM JUDGE HAWKINS

Everybody in Georgia who wants to see a higher moral standard in the state and who hopes the day isn't distant when there will be far more regard for human life and that crimes of violence will be few and far between will heartily approve Judge Hawkins' criticism of the jury in the case of Steve Thomkins in Dublin on Thursday. The case was before the court the second time, the Supreme Court having granted a new trial, the first having resulted in a verdict of murder in the first degree. The second trial resulted in a verdict of voluntary manslaughter, and the judge felt that the verdict should have been the same as it was in the first trial, believing that the jury had been unduly influenced by sympathy for the accused

man's family.

In the course of his talk to the prisoner in passing a twenty years' sentence on him, he is reported as saying that such verdicts as that just rendered were responsible for the fact that there are more murders and homicides in the state of Georgia in one year than in the entire United Kingdom of Great Britain, and that Georgia is one of the foremost states for murder and homicide.

It is regrettable that there is foundation for this charge against the state. And one of the reasons is that it seems to be about impossible to secure the punishment of a white man for murder as the law provides. Because of the chances of escaping punishment altogether or of getting only a light sentence with the probability of a pardon human life is taken with a readiness that is simply appalling.

Between technicalities and sympathy of juries there is a broad avenue for the escape of those who take human life, either premeditatedly or in quarrels of one sort and another. It was said in the trial of the murderers of the gambler, Rosenthal, that the petit jury indicates the moral standard of a community, and there does seem to be truth in the statement. If juries refuse to convict for murder it is pretty good evidence that there is a mighty strong sentiment against punishment for murder. It is certainly true that in this state there is a toleration of crimes of violence that is doing the state incalculable damage. Very slight provocation is regarded as a sufficient excuse for using deadly weapons, and as a consequence every few days a report comes from some part of the state that a human life has been blotted out, a wife made a widow, children made orphans and perhaps a new feud started.

What is to be done about it? The newspapers have been exerting all their influence against the carrying of deadly weapons and the judges are doing their duty in enforcing this law, but the petit juries still lag in the rear. They don't seem to realize their responsibility. Public opinion needs to be aroused since only by the force of it can juries be compelled to respect their oaths and free the state from crimes of blood.

CONVICT GANG PUT ON HONOR

Constitution

Shackles and Chains Struck From Bartow County Prisoners.

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Warden Land, who is a humanitarian, announced at the beginning of the year, when he took charge of the county convicts, that he would put the shackles from the legs of the men for whom he would be held responsible by the county of Bartow and the prison commission of Georgia. He was warned by those who were skeptical that he was going too far with his "humanitarian" ideas, but he declared his determination to free the men from the painful and oftimes dangerous chains that not only humiliated them and angered them, but on many occasions have been known to cause dangerous cases of blood poison.

In fact, there have been many fatal cases of blood pollation caused by the rubbing of the iron shackles. Such wounds have been made that more than one convict in this county and others have paid the price of their lives from being cruelly and carelessly manacled and shackled by merciless wardens and guards.

Assumes Responsibility.

Knowing of these cases, and being a man of determination as well as a fixed purpose of humanity toward the prisoners under him, Warden Land took the case in his own hands, and assumed the responsibility for his innovation in spite of the repeated warnings that "you do not know the negro." "They will abuse your confidence if you trust them," etc., that were given him. He answered even the prison commission, which is said to have gently remonstrated with him upon his radical change in prison management by saying, "All you require of me is that I take care of the men, get a certain amount of work out of them and refrain them from escaping, and it is my business what methods I employ if I can but deliver the goods."

That his confidence has not been abused by those who have been mercifully treated is sufficiently attested by the fact that not only has there not been a single escape from the works upon which the men have been employed, but there has never been an attempt at escape. The men are so grateful to their beneficiary that they are anxious and willing the

...le make a good showing with his work, and a spirit of co-operation has arisen between the warden and the convicts and the guards that all who have come into position to observe testify to the apparent fact that better work and more of it is now being done on the Bartow county roads than ever before in the history of convict labor.

The idea of putting the convict on his honor, which was so successfully proven by the great Captain Dalgas of Denmark, who practically reforested his denuded country with the aid of convicts, is without doubt the best method of treating those unfortunates who find themselves obliged to give their work for the upbuilding of the public.

Captain Land's Work.

Captain Land, of the Bartow county convict force, in a talk with the correspondent for The Constitution, said:

"As soon as I took charge of the men in this camp I decided that there should be no more chains and shackles. I did not wish to drive men like slaves, and to have them unjustly and unnecessarily humiliated, in addition to the punishment they were already undergoing. In a few words, I decided in order to get the best work from the men that they should receive a humane treatment. The fact that they had been convicted of misdemeanors, or even felonies, did not conclude that they were totally depraved, and that there was no good among them. I did not wish to keep them in a state of resentment against me, as the warden, the state and society-at-large by subjecting them to such humiliation as being chained one another.

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"Chains not only hamper the men at work, but they are dangerous in that they cause severe abrasions that sometimes result in blood poisoning. Last, but by no means least, the shackles injure the men's spirits, in that they humiliate them and make them sullen and resentful. I cut them off, and told the boys that I was going to trust them; that I would be merciful to them, and that I would do as long as they allowed me to do. I gave them to understand that no man would wear chains unless he wanted to, and in the seven months since I adopted the chainless method of treatment with them, I have not had one man to even attempt to escape.

"You can see for yourself how happy they are, notwithstanding their incarceration, and such a thing as insubordination is not known in the camps. There are twenty-eight men here, most of whom are black men, and there are misdemeanors as well as felonies among them, but they are one big family of children, with me as the responsible head. Of course we have to lock them up at night, on account of a prison regulation, but I believe that none of them would try to get away, even though they were not locked in the camp cars at night. They trust me, and I trust them, so that a spirit of co-operation has grown up between us that makes them earnest in their desire to do a good work for me and for the county."

Record Work on Roads.

...the commissioners of Bartow county are enthusiastic in their praise of Warden Land and his method of cutting his men, and it is a fact that no squad of convicts in the history of the county has ever done such work on the roads. The men are not hampered either by chains or unjust and trifling orders that make their work difficult to perform. The whip is so seldom used in this camp that it is scarcely known. There is nothing to keep the men from acting as natural human beings, and as such they are more able to give good work to the courts. They are not suspected and consequently they do not suspect others. They are about as happy as they could be under such conditions, and this would be instantly proven to anyone who came upon the camp on Sunday or a holiday and could hear the banjo, the mouth organ and the shuffling feet of the negroes as they jig and sing the day away, happy in the thought that they are exempt from the worries of the high cost of living, and that they have nothing to do till to-morrow."

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9-12-12

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Montgomery Advertiser

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Murder
Hon. Jno. H. Gordon
Rubberneck
B. 342
9-8-12

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Number 1 Mem Book
Convicts
Labor
Alabama
Misc.
9-8-12

Crime — 1912
Sav. Tribune 1-6-12

It was stated by the daily papers this week that the total amount accruing to the city from fines in the police court was twent-five thousand dollars, the largest sum ever realized by the city from this source except for the year of 1908. To the Negroes this is a very significant figure as a very large proportion of it was paid by them and that too by the poor and needy ones of us. One can scarcely realize the vast amount of money paid into the coffers of the police court by our people until he pays an occasional visit to one or two of the daily sessions of this court and sees what a tremendous drain upon our pockets the evil doers are among us. What pity that we have not been able thus far to stem the tide which is carrying off so much of our hard earned money in this direction. Let us endeavor this year at least to make a decided reduction in the number of youthful offenders among us who yearly come before the recorder, thereby decreasing our annual output in this direction.

Among the many things which we are hoping to see materialized before another twelve months roll by are a new school, the formation of some sort of organization among our leading business men and the getting together of a sufficient amount of money by the Curators of the proposed Carnegie Library to assure us that the site will be secured for that institution. We have every assurance from the board of education that the much needed new school is a certainty and we can hardly await the time when it shall be erected and thrown open for occupancy, for by means of this new school hundreds of our children who are now denied the privilege of schooling will be accommodated and thereby kept off the streets and from all sorts of evil places which they now frequent. As to the formation of some kind of organization among our business men we have heard no talk, but that it would be a means of immeasurable benefit to the business interests of our people if the men who are concerned in the various business enterprises of our city would get together there is no doubt. Not long since we noticed through the columns of the Atlanta Independent that the Negroes of that city had formed such an organization and we have since been told that it has done much to unite and promote the business interests of the people of that city. Such an organization among us would likewise be conducive to much good and we should be particulary pleased to see a movement set on foot whereby we too may be able to have our business men united into some sort of organization for the betterment of the business interests of the city. It is very essential that our business men give this matter serious consideration and act upon the suggestion in due season. The time is now at hand when we should see the necessity of co-operation and the folly of division. Let us therefore form ourselves into a Board of Trade, a Chamber of Commerce or any other name you may give to it so that we shall be able to work harmoniously one with the other. The proposed Carnegie Library, we regret to say, does not seem to be making as much headway as we should like to see, although the committee which has it in charge has now been at work a little over one year. We are sorely in need of this institution and should be glad to see the movement for its success take on new life. The citizens of Savannah can ill afford to allow the flattering offer of Mr. Carnegie to escape them but unless we go at it with renewed vigor we are apt to have our hopes blasted. We of Savannah are not so fortunately situated as are the Negroes of some other cities which afford good private school or college libraries to which a large per cent of the populace have access, therefore it will be a great benefit to us to secure this library but its going to take more than the mere broaching of the subject by the few solicitors to their friends or the casual stranger whom they meet on the streets, the majority of whom have never heard of such a thing as the proposed library and are therefore reluctant to give their assistance. What the movement really needs, and until it gets it there will be no perceptible change in the attitude which the people show toward it, is publicity. There is nothing which will assist the curators of the Carnegie Library more in realizing their hopes than to strike upon some method by which the movement may be given the widest possible publicity and thereby gotten clearly before the people. The movement needs the assistance of every Negro in the city and if a wide scheme of advertisement can be settled upon by the originators of this movement there is every reason to believe that in the course of the next twelve months a sufficient sum will be raised to make this much needed, long hoped for institution a certainty.

$192,647 NETTED TO STATE ANNUALLY BY CONVICTS

Receipts in Four Years Reported at $3,886,488

GORMAN MAKES REPORT

It Cost $475,228 to Feed 2,187 Prisoners During Four Years, While $21,545 Is Spent in Removing Them

5-12-12

Annual receipts from the convicts of Alabama average $192,647.41, taking the last four years as a basis. In that time the receipts were $3,886,488.40, while the disbursements were $2,264,453.41, with an additional expense of $[illegible] The net receipts for the four years amounted to $1,440,889.66.

These figures are taken from a report on the State Convict Department filed by J. T. Gorman, State Examiner of Public Accounts, with Governor O'Neal. The report was given out late Saturday afternoon for publication. The four years taken for an average end September 30, 1911.

It cost $475,228.66 to feed the prisoners the four years, while $21,545.05 was spent for the removal of prisoners. The examiner holds that one-half of the court work is with the criminal procedure, and makes charges accordingly. Solicitors' salaries for four years are set at $29,810.11, with judges' salaries at $230,654.18, and Supreme Court judges at $94,177.23.

Large Revenue Source.

"The annual receipts and disbursements of the Convict Department show an average annual excess of about $400,000 receipts over disbursements," says the examiner, "which is apparently a source of large revenue to the State. But there are several items of expense not embraced in these disbursements that would cause a considerable reductions in the revenue derived.

"These items are paid out of the general fund, instead of the convict fund, but they properly belong to the administration of the criminal law, such as feeding of prisoners, removal of prisoners, excess of payment of solicitors' salaries over receipts of solicitors' fees, and part of the payment of the salaries of the judges while engaged in the trial of criminal cases."

Receipts in the department from March 4, 1911 to March 3, 1912, amounted to $1,018,984.19, while the disbursements amounted to $690,492.95. The receipts over disbursements were $328,491.54. Figures for the year before, or the last year of the old administration, gave receipts over disbursements at $510,161.55.

Difference in Figures.

The examiner sets out that the difference in figures is caused by the fact that the old administration had a large amount of cotton goods on hand for sale, and that the present administration spent nearly $40,000 for land and mules, and for the erection of a hospital. The reports, after deductions, $83,744.68 in receipts more for the present administration and $10,592.38 in disbursements. It is held that there is a general increase in both receipts and disbursements.

Expenses of the department are given as follows: Salaries of officers and employes in the office, $70,120.24; salaries of officers and guards at mines, $64,168.55; court costs in penitentiary cases, $26,121.19; general expenses, $35,676.85; amounting to $196,086.83. Expenses for the last year of the old administration are set out as follows:

Salaries of officers and employes in office, $69,141.12; salaries of officers and guards at mines, $63,932.20; court costs in penitentiary cases, $35,676.85; general expenses, $441,228.34; amounting to $609,919.25.

Receipts Itemized.

Examiner Gorman gives the following figures as receipts from March 4, 1911, to March 3, 1912: Sloss-Sheffield Coal and Iron Company, 270 convicts at Flat Top mine, $205,283.88; Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railway Company (contract expired), $149,388.28; Henderson Lumber Company, $84,881.16; Horse-Shoe Lumber Company, ninety-three convicts at River Falls saw-mill, $36,131.54.

Henderson-Boyd Lumber Company, 221 convicts at Richburg saw-mill, $52,341.32; Alabama Manufacturing Company, Florence, $12,027.54; Walter Brothers, $4,866.98; Sellers-Bullard Company, forty-seven convicts at Samson, $16,975.88; Robertsdale Turpentine Company, $15,644.86; Red Feather Coal Company, 185 convicts at Lucile, $99,132.21; Bessemer Coal, Iron and Land Company, $84,561.63; Henderson Turpentine Company, $26,178.52.

Theole-Phillips Manufacturing Company, sixty-three convicts at Florence, $9,367.10; W. D. McCurdy, forty convicts at Lowndesboro, $4,931.74; L. H. McCurdy, $4,745.58; Pratt Consolidated Coal Company, $19,365.52.

Some of these contracts have expired, while others ran only a part of the year. The examiner reports 2,187 convicts now under the direction of the department, distributed as follows:

Wetumpka (farm and hospital), 240; Speigner (farm and cotton factory), 322; No. 4 (State farm), sixty-four; Theole-Phillips Manufacturing Company, of Florence, paying $55 a month for each convict, sixty-three; Horse-shoe Lumber Company, of River Falls, paying $1.35, $1 and $.70 a day for each convict, ninety-three; Henderson Lumber Company, of Sanford, paying $30 a month for each convict, eighty-seven.

Convict Distribution.

Henderson-Boyd Lumber Company, of Richburg, paying $1.35, $1 and $.70 a day, 221; Sellers-Bullard Company, of Samson, paying $30 a month for each convict, forty-seven; Bessemer Coal, Iron and Land Company, paying from $46 to $10.50 for each convict; W. D. McCurdy, of Lowndesboro, paying $20 a month for each convict, forty; Sloss-Sheffield Steel and Iron Company, paying $.45 a ton for coal, 270; Red Feather Coal Company, of Lucile, paying 52 1-2 to 57 1-2 cents a ton for coal, 185; Pratt Consolidated Coal Company, paying $.65 a ton for coal, 334.

Delinquencies amounting to $33,559.87 are reported by the examiner. He names the following charges against contractors:

Walter Brothers, $9; Henderson Turpentine Company, $192; Robertsdale Turpentine Company, $687.86; Henderson Lumber Company, $562.50; W. D. McCurdy, $320; Theole-Phillips Manufacturing Company, $2,087.33; Sloss-Sheffield Steel and Iron Company $5,086.85; Red Feather Coal Company $21,023.33.

"If the contractor fails to settle within thirty days after receiving the account," according to the examiner, "the president of the board shall notify the attorney general, who shall at once bring suit for the amount due."

Reports Not Made.

Probate judges of twenty-three counties do not make reports to the State Convict Department, as required by section four of an act of the Legislature, according to the report. These are as follows:

Baldwin, Cherokee, Choctaw, Clay, DeKalb, Elmore, Lamar, Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Marengo, Marion, Marshall, Montgomery, Perry, Pickens, Randolph, Shelby, St. Clair, Sumter, Tuscaloosa, Washington and Wilcox.

Examiner Gorman says proper blanks are furnished for this purpose. He recommends more stringent laws with reference to the filing of reports.

MOBILE FEED BILLS EIGHT TIMES THAT OF THE STATE

Report on Situation Is Made to Gov. O'Neal

PETTY PROSECUTIONS

An Average of One of Every 16 of Population Jailed Each Year

Mar. 4, 1911

Eight times more than all other counties of the state together, Mobile county draws on the state treasury of prisoners serving jail sentences, feed bills. The revelation is made following an investigation which was conducted at the request of Governor O'Neal who is desirous of eliminating the conditions which exist in the southern county.

The number of arrests in Mobile county on petty charges is great, amounting to 15,356 in three years ending July 31, 1912. Examiner J. T. Gorman who at the request of Governor O'Neal conducted the investigation, said in his report of Tuesday:

"An average of almost one out of every sixteen of the population of Mobile county is committed to jail annually. Of these prisoners, 795 were charged with the commission of felonies, and the state paid $10,892.40 for feeding them, 14,561 were charged with the commission of misdemeanors, and the state paid $25,403.70 for feeding them, thus paying $14,511.30 more for feeding prisoners charged with misdemeanors than for prisoners charged with felonies.

State Receives no Benefit

"The state receives no benefit whatever from misdemeanor cases."

Governor O'Neal, together with his examiner holds that the condition is due to a great number of petty and frivolous prosecutions, initiated usually by deputy sheriffs, and sometimes as in the case of vagrancy charges due to illegal sentences. As a remedy, Examiner Gorman suggests, in his report.

"The only apparent remedies, for the reduction of the feed bills are the abolition of the fee system, and the enactment of legislation to make counties pay for feeding prisoners charged with misdemeanors and the state to pay for those charged with felonies. The state pays $130,000 annually for feeding prisoners and of this amount at least $75,000 is for feeding prisoners charged with misdemeanors, for which the counties alone receive the benefit. If the counties paid for feeding prisoners charged with misdemeanors, there would probably not be so many petty, frivolous prosecutions."

It is the opinion of Governor O'Neal that offenders in misdemanor cases, especially in vagrancy cases, should not be placed in jail to rest at the expense of the state. The continued prosecution of minor cases, and the continued holding of the petty offenders in jail at the expense of the state, and the almost invariable fact that the arrests are made by deputies is taken by him to point toward a surrender on the part of the law officers to the lure of the feed fee of thirty cents a day for each prisoner.

Auditor Smith Talks.

The extent of the custom of assigning jail sentences in Mobile, as compared to other counties of the state, is revealed in a statement made by C. B. Smith, state auditor, at the request of the governor.

His letter to the Governor is:

"As per your request of recent date, I enclose you a comparative statement of the ten months this fiscal year beginning October 1, 1911, and ending July 31, 1912, as to the jail sentences of Mobile County as compared with the balance of the State. I find upon examination the following comparison:

Baldwin County, has sentenced five men to jail one day each, total five days.

Bullock County, sixty days.
Cherokee County, sixty days.
Colbert County, sixty-one days.
Dallas County, 486 days.
Greene County, 130 days.
Jefferson County, 540 days.
Lawrence County, sixty-one days.
Marengo County, 540 days.
Montgomery County, sixty days.
St. Clair County, sixty days.
Talladega County, twenty days.
Tallapoosa County, thirty days
Tuscaloosa County, 360 days.
Wilcox County, 192 days.

The other counties not mentioned have no jail sentences, excepting Mobile County, 2,635 days at 30 cents a day would make $790 for the ten months.

Mobile County for the ten months has a total number of days for jail sentences 21,464 at 30 cents a day, would make $6,439.20.

Jefferson Feed Bills.

The largest county in the State, Jefferson County, drew from the State Treasury for the nine months $20,822.65 for feeding prisoners. Mobile County for nine months drew for feeding prisoners $11,111.10. Jefferson County, as you will note, is nearly twice as much as Mobile County's. Therefore, it must have nearly twice as many prisoners, but their total for ten months is only 600 days for jail sentences as against Mobile County's 21,464 days for jail sentences. You will also note that nearly all of the jail sentences in Jefferson are for a comparative short time, while in Mobile County there are numerous ones from twelve to thirteen months.

A statement of the number of days served by prisoners in Mobile having jail sentences, beginning October 1, 1911, and ending July 31, 1912, is:

October, 1911, 2,204 days: November, 1911, 2,437 days; December, 1911, 2,491 days; January, 1912, 2,806 days; February, 1912, 2,576 days; March, 1912, 1,890 days; April, 1912, 1,817 days; May, 1912, 1,793 days; June, 1912, 1,788 days; July, 1912, 1,662 days. Total number of days, 21,464. 21,464 days at 30 cents per day, $6,439.20.

Legality Questioned.

The legality of jail sentences for vagrancy is questioned by Examiner J. T. Gorman, who calls attention in his report to the code sections which prescribe hard labor sentences and fines for convictions on the charge of vagrancy.

The jail sentences on this charge and the dead expense of vagrants to the State, must stop, the Governor announced, in discussing the report.

"How can they be stopped?" he was asked.

"There is only a request to the judges, on my part. If they give hard labor sentences, but only jail sentences, then there remains the power of pardon which the Governor has," he said.

The main results of Examiner Gorman's investigations are:

"In obedience to instructions received from the executive office, I have examined the feed bills of the sheriffs of Mobile County, Alabama for three years, from August 1, 1909, to July 31, 1912.

"During that period the State has paid $36,296.10 for feeding prisoners in Mobile County, an average of $12,018.70 per annum, or $1,008.22 per month.

"This includes $155.70 for feeding twenty-four prisoners transferred from Baldwin County to Mobile.

"On August 1, 1909, there were fifty-six prisoners confined in the Mobile jail and from that date to July 31, 1912, 15,300 prisoners were committed to jail, making a total of 15,356 prisoners in the Mobile jail for a period of three years, from August 1, 1909, to July 31, 1912, an average of 5,118 prisoners committed annually, or 426 monthly, or fourteen daily.

Average One in Sixteen.

"This was an average of almost one out of every sixteen of the population of Mobile County committed to jail annually.

"Seven hundred and ninety-five of these prisoners were charged with the commission of felonies and the State paid $10,892.40 for feeding them.

"Fourteen thousand five hundred and sixty-one were charged with the commission of misdemeanors and the State paid $25,403.70 for feeding them, thus paying $14,511.30 more for feeding prisoners charged with misdemeanors than for prisoners charged with felonies.

"The State receives no benefit whatever from misdemeanor cases.

"Of these prisoners 489 were committed to jail from the city and miscellaneous courts, 1,076 from the Recorder's Court of Mobile and 13,791 from the Inferior Criminal Court of Mobile.

"Five thousand six hundred and seven of these prisoners were convicted. 142 were sentenced to the penitentiary, 2,515 were sentenced to hard labor and 2,959 to imprisonment in jail.

"The others were acquitted or discharged, or have not been tried.

"During this period the State paid $16,146.60 for feeding prisoners sentenced to imprisonment in jail, an average of $5,382.20 per annum.

"Of the 14,561 misdemeanor cases 5,868, or about two-fifths of the entire number, were charged with vagrancy and 1,920 were charged with gaming, making 7,788 prosecutions for these two offenses, or a little over one-half of the misdemeanor cases.

One-Third Convicted.

"Of the 5,868 vagrancy cases, 2,127, or a little more than one-third, were convicted, 950 were sentenced to hard labor for Mobile County, 1,177 were sentenced to imprisonment in jail and 3,741 were acquitted or discharged.

"The State paid $6,888.10 for feeding these prisoners sentenced to imprisonment in jail for vagrancy.

"One thousand eight hundred and six prisoners were sentenced to imprisonment in jail for ten days each, for which the State paid $5,418 feed bills.

"It will be seen from the foregoing data that over 90 per cent of the criminal prosecutions in Mobile County originate in the Inferior Criminal Court.

"This court has final jurisdiction in all misdemeanors and preliminary jurisdiction in felonies.

"The sheriff receives $1,800 per annum for executing all the processes of this court, in lieu of the regular fees allowed by the general law.

"About 75 per cent of the prosecutions for vagrancy and gaming in this court were made by deputy sheriffs.

"There have been a number of defendants, especially those prosecuted for gaming and public drunkenness convicted several times. It seems that many of these defendants, on conviction pay their fines, or serve their jail or hard labor sentences and commit the same offenses continuously.

"These defendants seem to be regular, habitual drunkards and professional gamblers and their names appear frequently on the feed bills."

AMERICA--WHERE MURDER FLOURISHES.

During the past week the American Bar association, in session at Milwaukee, has been discussing judicial reform and various matters pertaining to the advancement of justice in this country. As The Constitution has often contended, one of the primary benefits the association could confer on the nation would be by exerting its influence to the end that America may cease to be indicted as the "nation of murderers." For instance, a recent editorial in The New York Independent contains the following disquieting comment:

> For the practice of "murder as a fine art" the United States offers unparalleled opportunities. There are three chances out of four that the murderer will never be brought to trial and ninety-nine chances out of a hundred that he will escape the gallows. In Germany, on the contrary, he would stand ninety-five chances out of a hundred of being caught and convicted. Under these circumstances it is no wonder that we lead the world in this line, with a record of about thirty homicides a day. In New York city last year there were 119 cases of homicide, and in London only 19, so to keep up with New York, London would have to kill about ten times as many. Is old England willing to be beaten by us in all the manly sports?

Georgia is not exempt from its share in this indictment. The Constitution has shown what toll the pistol-toting habit takes of life and law and order in this state.

Pursuing commercial advantage we are apt to neglect the duty of wiping out the stigma that applies to wholesale law violations, growing out of laxity of justice and the handicap enjoyed by the criminal as against society.

Outworn technicalities, archaic procedure and the indifference of public sentiment all conspire to raise the homicide rate in Georgia, as throughout the nation. It has been shown that, in New York city, the apathy of municipal authority is the principal factor at fault.

The remedy lies in intelligent co-operation between state and federal lawmaking bodies, to the end that the criminal and civil codes shall be made to harmonize with the needs of the day. After that is accomplished, public sentiment must be eternally vigilant, making no distinction as between the rich and the poor malefactor.

The process of redeeming the nation from its unenviable reputation is necessarily a slow one. But it can be materialized, if the states and congress and the people work together in proper concert.

Crime — 1912

INCREASE OF NEGRO CRIMINALS.

Age 1-21-12

The large and steady influx of Negroes from the Southern States, seeking better conditions of government under which to live, and a more adequate compensation for their labor, in the States of the North and West, has brought and will continue to bring a great many undesirable persons, criminally inclined, if not confirmed, before they leave the Southern States, who promptly give an account of themselves in their new surroundings. They are in no way modest in their conduct in public places, are handy with the offensive epithet that provokes anger and the blow that calls for blows, and stand in no awe of the police and a term in prison. If they want anything and have no money or credit with which to purchase it, they grab it wherever they find it. A casual reading of the daily papers of Wilmington, Philadelphia, New York and Boston will show that the "undesirable Negro and his doings" are clamorously on the increase among us, and are being mercilessly dealt with by the police, who are disposed to give them less consideration than that given white undesirables of the same character.

It is not a pleasant subject to consider, but it is one of those subjects that refuse to be ignored. The Northern and Western newspapers are giving a great deal of space and flare headlines to the undesirable Negro and his doings. "How does that concern me," the Negro highbrow may ask. The answer is plain enough. The few undesirables are making a serious problem for the desirables in the simple but all important matter of their bread and butter. They are fetching all Negroes working or seeking work under suspicion as being unreliable or dangerous and predisposing employers to refuse employment to those seeking it and to be mistrustful of and to discharge those they have, in order to be on the safe side. That this condition is existing and growing in the large cities is borne out by the trouble everywhere our men and women are having to get desirable employments and keep them, and by the alarming increase of the idlers who block up our street corners, hang about saloons and choke up the concert halls. We state the case as it confronts us, and becomes more and more a menace to the well doing of those of the race who must work for wages.

On the other hand, we have found in the country districts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania that farmers are reluctant to hire Negroes because they are not disposed to give as much labor and attention to the work for the same wages as white help, and they are afraid to have them about because of the atrocious crimes against persons and property committed by them here and there and reported in the daily and weekly newspapers with minute elaboration and detail. How are we to meet the condition? As the intelligent men and women of the other races of the population are trying to meet the condition forced upon them by their undesirables: by organized charities, law and order leagues, Christian association work, Salvation Army rescue work, prison relief work, and the like.

Our churches and preachers could to great advantage practice and preach more the philosophy of the present and less that of the future, more the way to live and less the way to die. It would help wonderfully to stem the tide of the Negro's indifference to missing of desirable employment when he has it and help him to secure it when he has not got it but seeks it, and teach him to look more soberly upon the sure death that lurks in criminal ways and criminals. Our preachers' meetings should take up the more social and industrial side of the race problem in their discussions and in their work severally, as pastors, more than they have done and are doing. They are the largest and most influential organized body for race uplift that we have, and the race expects that they will give more and more of their thought and labor to the problems of life that make for weal or woe in the condition of the whole people.

We have our own vast problems of political, moral, social and industrial uplift, as others have, to contend with and they are beginning to press ver

Mont Dale
1-13-12

THE RECORD OF HOMICIDES.

The Birmingham News, in its editorial columns, publishes an astonishing table of statistics dealing with homicides in various large cities of the United States. Birmingham's record is the worst in the entire country. The News, which is leading the fight in Jefferson County for improved conditions, makes no comment upon the figures. In themselves they are sufficiently eloquent.

To the thousand population in 1911, Cambridge, Mass., has no murders. Lowell, Mass., and St. Paul, Minn., had only .009 murders each to the thousand population. Chicago is the worst city of the North in the record of homicides. In that city there were .104 murders to each thousand population.

The unpleasant fact stares the student in the face that there are far more murders in Southern than in Northern cities. We may not like this, but we can hardly deny it. The cities which are worse than Chicago in murder and homicides are Louisville, Richmond, St. Louis, Atlanta, New Orleans, Memphis and Birmingham. And Birmingham is the worst. That city for each thousand population .654 murders in 1911. Surely the figures are sufficiently powerful.

And, to prevent the lugging in of the inevitable prohibition question in considering these figures, it is only necessary to point out that for nine months of 1911, Birmingham was a prohibition city, and that for three months of the year it was a licensed

ARRESTED ON FRAUD CHARGE BY GOVERNMENT

Mrs. Irene Moorman-Blackstone is Implicated in

mp case 1/15/12

WEALTHY WOMEN CONNECTED

Claim that Mesdames Blackstone and Butler Wrote Letters asking for Financial Aid.

On Saturday, June 15, Mrs. Irene Moorman-Blackstone and Mrs. Mary Butler will have to stand trial in the United States Court, Brooklyn, on the charge of using the mail to defraud. Mrs. Blackstone is well known, having been manager of the Harper-Moorman Realty Company, which was located in Brooklyn. Mrs. Butler is said to be the wife of a Brooklyn minister.

The names of wealthy women are connected with the arrest and prosecution of Mesdames Blackstone and Butler, Mrs. E. H. Harriman, Mrs. James Speyer, Mrs. Fred. B. Pratt and Mrs. Tiffany, wife of the diamond merchant, being among those who claim that the colored women attempted to victimize them through the mail.

Mesdames Blackstone and Butler were arrested last week by the Federal authorities at the instance of the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, which has charge of looking after those who are in destitute circumstances and worthy of charitable consideration.

It is claimed by the Federal authorities that wealthy women began to receive letters from Mesdames Blackstone and Butler about two weeks ago in which strong appeals for financial aid were made. Both are said to have represented themselves as widows of preachers who had died leaving them in very destitute circumstances.

Mrs. Blackstone is accused of asking for $3,150, setting forth she needed $3,150 to pay off a mortgage, which payment was necessary or she would lose her property at 522 Herkimer street, Brooklyn. Mrs. Butler is said to have asked for $1,000 to be used in providing for her support.

The letters were sent to the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities for investigation, which later turned over the correspondence to the United States officials. Postoffice Inspector Tarsons was assigned on both cases, and his conclusion were that the two women were guilty of using the mail to defraud. Their arrest followed.

They were arraigned before United States Commissioner Benedict, United States Attorney Beck representing the Government. Each was held in default of $500 bail. Mrs. Blackstone is out on

A Pernicious Habit

1-13-12 Student

A strong letter with reference to the pernicious habit of carrying concealed weapons was sent this week by Principal Washington to leading Southern newspapers. The communication was published very widely throughout the South and the sentiments contained therein were heartily endorsed, editorially, by The Atlanta Constitution and other influential dailies. The letter follows:

To the Editor:

Through your paper I wish to call the attention of the men of my own race to the frightful loss of life and serious wounding and maiming of human beings that grows out of the habit of carrying concealed weapons. No one can read the daily papers, giving account of the crimes and accidents growing out of shootings during the Christmas holidays, without being impressed with the fearful and useless loss of life and limb resulting from the habit of carrying concealed weapons.

During Christmas week, a rough calculation shows that in Alabama there were 28 persons killed and about the same number of persons seriously or fatally wounded.

Taking for granted that an equal number were killed and wounded in the remaining 12 Southern States, and I think this is a conservative estimate, we have a total of about 300 persons killed and an equal number wounded during Christmas week.

Of course I realize that all of this shooting was not done by colored people, but the majority of the crimes or accidents relate to the members of my own race.

My object in writing is to appeal to the masses of our people through the ministers, teachers and leaders to give up once for all the habit of carrying concealed weapons. It is a subject that should be taken up in the pulpit, in the Sunday school, in the home, and continually agitated until every member of our race who is now in the habit of carrying concealed weapons will feel ashamed to do so. During all the years that I have lived in Alabama, I have never carried a concealed weapon, I have never kept one in my house, and I have never felt the need of one. I have traveled through all parts of the South by night and by day and have never felt that I have been in the least danger, and if I had, I am quite sure I would not have been protected by reason of carrying a pistol. Where a pistol or gun keeps a person out of trouble one time, nine times it gets him in trouble. Besides, carrying concealed weapons not only does not protect life, but carrying concealed weapons is a barbarous, coarse and vulgar habit. There is no reason why a person in a civilized country like the United states, should get in the habit of going around in the community loaded and burdened with a piece of iron in the form of a pistol or gun.

If this subject is taken up at once and agitated throughout the South by our people, I am sure that, within a few years at least, the colored people will cease carrying weapons and there will not be so great a loss of life and limb as is now true.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

Tuskegee, Alabama, January 6, 1912.

354 Convicts are Given Their Freedom

Bradley District
Herald. Fordyce
Ark. 12-15-12.

Little Rock, Dec. 16.—Late Monday afternoon Governor Donaghey issued a proclamation granting full and free pardon of 316 State and 44 county convicts. It is the most sweeping rebuke ever pronounced by the Governor of any State against a system denounced as barbarous and pernicious as the convict

lease system. He assigns as his principal reason for discharging so large a number at this time "is for the purpose of forever breaking up the convict lease system in this State."

Ever since he has been in office he has been fighting the convict lease system, and the county farms. About fifty of those pardoned are on the three county farms left in the State, in Mississippi, Desha and Jefferson counties. He pardoned every one on those farms whose names he could get, except those convicted of carrying pistols and selling whiskey. His purpose was to blot these farms out of existence. There were 800 convicts in the penitentiary proper, not counting those that are being worked on the county roads in Pulaski and a few other counties under act of 1914.

Governor Donaghey has consistently fought the convict lease system ever since he has been in office. In every public speech he has denounced it. As a member of the Penitentiary Board he has opposed it. Many times he has pleaded with the legislature to abolish the system, but despite all this, no relief has been given.

"The subject has been grossly neglected by the General Assembly," says Gov. Donaghey in a message to the Legislature which he made public last night, "partly due to a confusion of ideas as to what plan best to adopt, and partly due to a disposition by some to let the matter remain as it is, with the statement that the penitentiary was not designed for a Sunday School."

To this the Governor retorts, "nor was it designed for a revengeful hell. Of course no one intends for it to be such, but in a measure that is what it and the county farms of the State have resolved themselves into. The abuse of power shown by a few individuals acting as Justices of Peace in some of the towns and cities of the State, as is made plain by the record, is enough to stagger into amazement those who have given the matter no attention."

The Governor's wholesale pardon was not the result of an impulse, but of a deliberate purpose dating back several years when he first began studying the subject. For months he has been at work securing complete data of all the convicts in the penitentiary, and has sent special agents to the county farms to secure data there, securing reports that are indeed startling in the extreme. "And but for the record in the case," says he, "they could scarcely be accepted as truth gotten from official documents and personal statements among a civilized people, and but for the necessity which compels me to officially transmit an account of all to make known, in a manner for the outside world to know it, the he statements obtained."

The Governor cites ten specific instances, of the most outrageous sentences inflicted, often for the most trivial offense one of these is as follows:

"In Phillips county, according to the court records, two negroes jointly forged nine orders for one quart of whiskey each. For this offense, one of them was convicted and sent to the penitentiary for thirty-six years, and the other for eighteen. When the record of the circuit court convicting them was secured, I at once issued pardons for both of them. They had no one to appear in their behalf, and at the time I issued the pardons I was notified by the penitentiary officials that after serving nearly two years the negro sentenced to thirty-six years had died.

Among other instacnes he notes the following: Jefferson county negro sentenced to 1,244 days for petit larceny; another from same county, 319 for petit larceny; another from same county, 1,481 days for petit larceny; Craighead county white man, 200 days for assault and battery; Miller county negro three years for stealing a few articles of clothing off a clothes line. These, he says, are but a few typical cases that should be sufficient to move the Legislature to action.

The Governor says that these conditions are the fault of the system, and not of the management of the penitentiary, which has done all it could to correct the evils. The Penitentiary Board has no jurisdiction over the county farms.

PREACHER LOCKED UP

Rev. David D. Turner, 70 Years Old, Pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church of Jersey City, Arrested for Violating White Slave Law.

The Rev. David D. Turner, 70 years old, pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church, Jersey City, N. J., is locked up in the city prison in default of $5,000 bail, charged with violating the New Jersey white slave laws.

The preacher's wife runs an employment agency, where she claims she handles all classes of help, both white and black. The agency is conducted at the parsonage. For some time the immigration officials have suspected the Rev. Mr. Turner. Finally Samuel M. Auerbach of 2319 Crotona avenue, the Bronx, an agent for the North American Civic League for Immigrants, laid the matter before Capt. John Cody of the City Hall Police Station in Jersey City. Cody arranged for Auerbach, a woman investigator and a police matron to visit Turner. This visit was made yesterday afternoon.

Auerbach and the women got two colored women from Turner, and asserts that he told Turner they were wanted for immoral purposes in New York. He gave Turner $5. Auerbach got a warrant from Acting Judge Edward Markley and on it arrested Turner at his home.

WAR ON SOUTHERN CONVICT LEASE SYSTEM.

Way back in the early days of 1880 Mr. George W. Cable, the popular novelist, electrified the country by an exposure of the barbaric practices in the convict camps of the Southern states, and for a long time the flash-light of indignant public opinion was turned upon them mercilessly. But the clamor died away and left the system to grow and fatten upon its own cumulative filth. Occasionally a legislative committee would pronounce against the system and some effort at reform would be made, but little would come of it, as the leasing of convicts was very valuable and the benefits were enjoyed often by legislators and other state officers. There are many people who deal in carrion and are not ashamed to live sumptuously upon the proceeds of it, under which head comes all taxation of vice in the large cities of the Republic.

At the recent conference of governors at Richmond Gov. Blease of South Carolina created a sensation by declaring that he had pardoned hundreds of convicts who had served long sentences, some fifteen and some twenty years, for small offenses. THE AGE directed attention some months ago to the statement of one of the state's attorneys of Atlanta, who spent some days in the chain gang, among white convicts only by selection, "to see how the system works." His narration of the horrors he saw and experienced read like a canto out of Dante's "Inferno" and helped to create a healthier public opinion in Georgia against the lease system.

But the most sweeping indictment of the convict lease system has just been made by Gov. Donaghey of Arkansas in giving a pardon to 369 convicts. He says he gave a pardon to none of them who was not entitled to it. He has fought the system all through his three terms as governor, and as he could not get the legislature to act he has acted himself by the wholesale pardoning, by which three convict camps will be wiped out. He calls the convict camps "a revengeful hell." It is a hopeful sign when we can have such governors of the Southern states as Gilchrist of Florida, O'Neil of Alabama, Mann of Virginia, and Donaghey of Arkansas standing up again and say on the one hand and convict lease abuses on the other. We say it is a hopeful sign.

NEGROES MUST PAY STREET TAXES NOW OR PAY FINES

The police department has been instructed by the City Commission to make wholesale arrests of negro men for non-payment of street taxes. It was learned Thursday morning that only 800 had paid the assessment, while at least 3,000 of them are liable for the tax. Commissioner McIntyre instructed Chief Taylor to have the policemen arrest every negro who could not show a receipt for the payment. Those caught will be tried before Recorder Elmore and sentenced to fines or terms on the streets.

FOUR NEGROES SENTENCED TO PENITENTIARY

Four negroes convicted of murder during the present term of the criminal court were sentenced by Judge Armstead Brown Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. Willis Wilson, convicted for the murder of Frank Katts in a local cafe several months ago, was sentenced to serve ten years in the penitentiary; Patience Ellsberry, convicted for the killing of Adeline Williams, was given a year and a day; Emma Adams, who killed Willis Collins in this county, was given five years, and Ellis Harris who killed Abe Hunter, a negro received a sentence of one year and three months.

Need for Racial Police.

Little Police Protection is afforded our girls of to-day because, "while we have an efficient police department," our present officers have not the interest in Negro social uplift, nor have they the opportunity to acquaint themselves with conditions that threaten our girls' future, and right here we will say that even one good Negro officer could do more for the moral and social safety of the Negro girl than all our present county, city, township and school officers together. We need this protection for our girls, but it can only come by a safeguard or an alliance to save the girls led by some of our good and capable Negro women who have the future of their race at heart. Agitation will bring the protection and organization will do the saving of our girls.—Springfield (Ill.) Citizen.

New York Herald

COLOR NO BAR IN THEATRE.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

ALBANY, N. Y., Tuesday.—No theatre may refuse to seat in any part of the house to a person because they are not white, according to a decision of the Court of Appeals to-day. A judgment for $200 was upheld in favor of Susan M. Joiner, a half negro, half Indian, of Rochester, against the Moore-Wiggins Company, proprietors of the Temple Theatre in that city. She had a ticket for a seat in the orchestra, but when she tried to take it an usher asked her to step to the box office. There she was offered in exchange a seat in the balcony, and when she refused it she was ejected. The Court of Appeals sustained the decisions of all the lower courts.

Crime — 1912

BARRED BECAUSE OF COLOR.

Woman Wins Damage Suit Against Rochester Theatre Owners.

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 21.—Susan M. Joyner, who claims to be half negro and half Indian, recovered $200 damages from the proprietors of the Temple Theatre, Rochester, for discrimination against her color, and the Court of Appeals to-day upheld the judgment. No opinion was written.

The woman bought a reserved seat in the orchestra circle and was proceeding down the aisle to occupy it when she was asked to stop at the box office. She was told she could not have the seat, but that her money would be returned or a seat given to her in the gallery. No reason was given for the refusal to permit her to use the seat she bought and she alleged it was by reason of her race.

LIQUOR LAWS VIOLATED AS IN PROHIBITION DAYS

Judge Brown Says Licensed Saloon Hasn't Brought Relief

CHARGES THE GRAND JURY

Takes Opportunity to Declare Against Radical Changes in Legal System

Mont Adv 1-8-12

That the people are realizing that the crime wave has reached it zenith and are looking to the grand juries and courts to stop its onslaught and protect the lives of the innocent, was the substance of Judge Armstead Brown's charge to the October term grand jury, which was organized for work Monday morning. He enumerated the crimes the body would have to investigate and touched upon the differences between murders of the several degrees and manslaughter, as well as to comment upon the blind tiger and other evils in Montgomery.

The grand jury will begin its work Tuesday morning. Adjournment was taken immediately after organization and the receipt of Judge Brown's charge. The body consists of Thomas E. Hackett, foreman; William D. Calloway, Harry Danziger, William A. Graves, Angles Shackelford, John E. Bartlett, Richard P. Dexter, Jr., E. E. Washburn, Harry P. Cargill, Morgan D. Sweatt, Joseph M. Morris, John Cobbs, J. W. Black, J. M. Curtis, W. Waugh, George W. Morrison, John Andrews, James Nachman.

System is Good.

During the course of his charg Judge Brown spoke of the system o jurisprudence and exhorted the juror to hold fast to the best points in th statutes.

"We have a splendid system of laws the growth of many centuries and a vast and complex and comprehensive as civilization itself. I am not one o those who believe in a radical revolu tion of our entire legal fabric. Wha we need is a sane and sensible evolu tion. We need to hold fast to what is good eliminating those parts which w have found unwise or unsuited t changed conditions and adding thos things which are shown by experienc to be necessary."

In calling the attention of the jur to the crimes it would be supposed t investigate, Judge Brown cited the action of the previous grand jury i returning such a large number of in dictments, and he lauded the petit juries for their convictions. These he pointed to as indications that crime i Montgomery county is being subjected to a rigid investigation.

Speaks of Speed Laws.

Commenting upon the blind tige evil, Judge Brown said it was as har to enforce the laws with the licensed saloons as with prohibition. He touched upon the powers of the Excise Commission and complimented it efforts to run down the blind tigers by the use of detectives on its own initiative, and not under requirements of the commissioners offices.

The violations of speed laws by autoists was dealt with briefly and he impressed upon the jury that such practices were dangerous to human life and against the laws of the State and city. He made mention of violations of the laws regulating pool rooms and said he had been informed that minors were allowed to play there without molestation. The gambling evil was brought up and Judge Brown instructed the jury to probe deeply into conditions that exist in the city and county.

SIX IN EVERY 100,000 WERE MURDERED IN 1910

Census Statistics Also Show Violent Deaths Increased Over Previous Year

Mont Adv, 1-22-12

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—About six persons in every 100,000 were murdered in 1910 in this country, according to statistics published by the Census Bureau. This is at the rate of 5.9 per 100,000, as against 5.6 in 1909; 6.4 in 1908, and 6.3 in 1907.

Violent deaths resulted to 90.3 persons out of every 100,000 in 1910, and in 1909 only 85.8 in the same number met death in the same manner.

Railroads killed the greatest number and 7,877 deaths are reported from injuries from that source. This is an increase to 14.6 in every 100,000 population over 13.1 in 1909. Accidental drowning took the next largest number, 4,818 having met death in the waters of the United States. Flames brought death to 4,182 and 2,484 were sacrificed in the mines and quarries during the year. The street car systems claimed 1,949 victims and deleterious gases 1,379, the smallest rate since 1906.

Automobiles killed 980 persons, just 1.8 to every 100,000 inhabitants. This is an increase in the rate over 1,2 in 1909. Vehicles, other than trains street cars and automobiles, killed 1,940. Poison in food caused the death of 3,157 and other poisons brought death to 1,227. Eighty-nine died from stab wounds and 556 were buried in landslides. Animals killed 502.

Cold and Heat Killed Many.

Thirty-eight persons starved to death during the year, excessive cold killed 254, and excessive heat, 826.

Pennsylvania had the largest number of violent deaths in 1910 and Wisconsin had the lowest rate in both 1910 and 1908.

In cities of 100,000 population the number of violent deaths were: Birmingham, 251; Los Angeles, 280; Oakland, 135; San Francisco, 399; Denver, 178; Bridgeport, Conn., 75; New Haven, Conn., 119; Washington, 261; Atlanta, 175; Chicago, 2,094; Indianapolis, 265; Louisville, 156; New Orleans, 287; Baltimore, 441; Boston, 646; Cambridge, Mass., 61; Fall River, Mass., 57; Lowell, Mass., 74; Worcester, Mass., 129; Detroit, 400; Minneapolis, 222; Grand Rapids, 66; St. Paul, 116; Kansas City, 309; St. Louis, 604; Omaha, 127; Jersey City, 281; Newark, 302; Patterson, N. J., 93; Albany, 81; Buffalo, 411; New York, 3,758 in 1910 and 3,430 in 1909; Bronx Borough, 284; Brooklyn, 1,095; Manhattan Borough, 1,055; Queensboro, 241; Richmond Borough, 84; Rochester, 156; Syracuse, 123; Cincinnati, 251; Cleveland, 171; Columbus, 206; Dayton, 101; Toledo, 128; Portland, Ore., 167; Philadelphia, 1,299; Pittsburg, 719; Scranton, 218; Providence, 212; Memphis, 257; Nashville, 110; Richmond, 168; Seattle, 227;

CONCEALED PISTOLS.

Booker Washington Writes on a Common But Dangerous Practice.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 6, 1912.
Editor Advertiser.

Through your paper I wish to call the attention of the men of my own race to the frightful loss of life and serious wounding and maiming of human beings that grows out of the habit of carrying concealed weapons. No one can read the daily papers, giving account of the crimes and accidents growing out of shootings, during the Christmas holidays, without being impressed with the fearful and useless loss of life and limb resulting from the habit of carrying concealed weapons.

During Christmas week a rough calculation shows that in Alabama there were twenty-eight persons killed and about the same number of persons seriously or fatally wounded.

Taking for granted that an equal number were killed and wounded in the remaining twelve Southern States, and I think this is a conservative estimate, we have a total of about 300 persons killed and an equal number wounded during Christmas week.

Of course I realize that all of this shooting was not done by colored people, but a majority of the crimes or accidents relate to the members of my own race.

My object in writing is to appeal to the masses of our people through ministers, teachers and other leaders to give up once for all the habit of carrying concealed weapons. It is a subject that should be taken up in the pulpit, in the Sunday School, in the home and continually agitated until every member of our race who is now in the habit of carrying concealed weapons will feel ashamed to do so. During all the years that I have lived in Alabama I have never carried a concealed weapon. I have never kept one in my house, and have never felt the need of one. I have traveled through all parts of the South by night and by day and have never felt that I have been in the least danger, and if I had I am quite sure I would not have been protected by reason of carrying a pistol. Where a pistol or gun keeps a person out of trouble one time, nine times it gets him in trouble. Besides, carrying concealed weapons not only does not protect life, but carrying concealed weapons is a barbarous, coarse and vulgar habit. There is no reason why a person in a civilized country like the United States should get into the habit of going around in the community loaded and burdened with a piece of iron in the form of a pistol or gun.

If this subject is taken up at once and discussed and agitated throughout the South by our people, I am sure that within a few years at least, the colored people will cease carrying weapons and there will not be so great a loss of life and limb as is now true.

Booker T. Washington.

A NEGRO PRISON ASSOCIATION IS NEEDED.

6/13/12

"Under the prison contract labor system," says the *Outlook*, "the state sells the labor of its convicts to contractors for a small amount per head per diem, usually forty to sixty cents." What follows? The contractor has no interest in the convict. He aims to get as much work out of him, with the least expense, so that the convict is driven from dawn to sunset at the high pressure. He is allowed not sufficient food or housing or sleep to do good work for long; but this does not bother the contractor, as the place of the exhausted convict who drops out of the slavery and dies is immediately filled [illegible] The convict system of the Southern states, it has been shown, represents more than anything else the innate brutal character of the people who make and enforce the laws.

HOMICIDES DUE TO MANY CAUSES, SAYS M'ADORY

Mont Adv. 1-12

Jefferson County Sheriff Explains Situation Regarding Unusual Number of Killings

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Jan. 4.—Sheriff Walter K. McAdory when asked as to why there were 148 homicides in Jefferson county last year and why so many of the number went without severe punishment, expressed the opinion today that the promiscuous carrying of concealed weapons, the failure of many of the best men in the county to serve on juries, either through legitimate or other excuses, and the failure of people who know facts in cases, either through fear or favor, refusing to give testimony, are the principal causes of the condition.

Without the least effort to defnd the fee system, for which he is not responsible, the sheriq further stated that not to make arrests on charges of gaming, violating the revenue laws, etc., bring against him charges of not performing his duties, while making such arrests causes a loud cry to the effect that he is tryin to make fees and is crowding the dockets in the courts.

SSheriff Not Angry.

Sheriq McAdory was not angry in the least on published interviews of pernioUous fee system operations or anything else in that line. He says that it was but a short while since that it was published to the world that there were 600 blind tigers still operating in this county and that it was up to him to put a stop to them and now that he is making an effort o do so there is some criticism of the numbers of arrests being made.

He denies that any effort has been made in the way of arrests other than to enforce the laws. In the cases of homicides, with the exception of in one death, that of L. B. Evans, who was assassinated near Lewisburg, the parties connected with them were handled through the sheriff's [illegible]

MR. GRAHAM REPLIES.

Mont Adv 1-4-12

Editor The Advertiser:

My attention has been called to what Mr. E. P. Wilson, a member of the Clarke County bar, had to say to your reporter in regard to conditions in Clarke county. He says that "crime conditions in Clarke county have been exaggerated." Mr. Wilson's remarks were evidently directed to my article, which appeared in your columns on Thursday, the 19th instant. He says that "We had an unpleasantly large docket at the last term. With one or two exceptions the prisoners accused of desperate crimes were all negroes." Mr. Wilson's memory is certainly very treacherous. I remember at least nine white persons charged with grave offenses. A white man and his wife were charged and convicted for rape. A white woman is being held in the jail on indictments for murder and incest. A white man was convicted for perjury and is being held for forgery and rape or, perhaps, an attempt to rape. Two white men were convicted for stealing cattle and the wife of one of the men was convicted for carrying saws into the jail and the father of the other is charged with conspiring with the woman who put the saws in possession of her husband. One white man is under bond and will be tried at next term for incest, his case being carried over.

There were seventy odd cases on the docket and it is true, that a great majority of them were negroes. I have not said and do not now say that Clarke County is any more than any other counties in the State, but I do say that crime, in my opinion, is on the increase, not only Clarke County, but throughout Alabama, as well as United States. The man and wife who committed the assault on the fourteen-year-old girl, mention of which I made in my article of the 19th instant, were not resident citizens of Clarke County. They were passing through. Some think the man was engaged in the white slave trade. Be that as it may, he has retired from business.

Clarke County has increased in population very little in the last twenty years. Twenty years ago the criminal business of the Circuit Court in this county was generally disposed of by Thursday of criminal week. The Circuit Court then handled practically all the criminal business—felonies and misdemeanors. Now, the Circuit Court, handles no criminal offenses except felonies. We have a county court which has jurisdiction of all misdemeanors. This court holds a non-jury term ten times a year and two jury terms, of one week each, every year, and yet the Circuit Court in this day and time can not dispose of the criminal business on its docket in a whole week, but finds it necessary to hold special terms. The county court at its last jury term had about one hundred cases on its docket and will, doubtless, have a heavy docket at its January term, which convenes on the third Monday in January, 1913. While the grand jury of our county was grinding out the seventy odd true bills at the last term of that body, two murders were committed in the county and another man shot, all negroes, however.

Is crime on the increase in Clarke County. Go examine the criminal dockets of the courts of the county and there find the answer. I agree with Mr. Wilson that "The body of our citizenship is in excellent condition," if he means by that that the majority of our citizens are all right, for we have some as fine people in Clarke County as dwell in any country, but I do not agree with him in saying that "our criminal class is no larger than it has been." Nearly every crime named in the catalogue of crimes have been committed in Clarke County in the last twelve months, such as rape, murder, incest, robbery, bigamy, perjury, forgery, burglary, grand larceny, lynching, blind-tigerism, and a great number of petty offenses, and yet some things have not been unearthed or rather called to the attention of the courts. This condition, doubtless, exists in other counties, but I am in Clarke County and know whereof I speak. It is a sad state of affairs, but we may as well confess to the true situation. It is true that when the courts cease to grind the meal sinks low in the lawyers barrel, but I am not one who would profit by the misfortunes and shortcomings of my fellowman. I would prefer to see the whole world dwelling in peace and harmony.

I do not want to be understood as trying to put my county in bad light before the world. That was far from my intention when I wrote my first article; but I am unwilling to let go unchallenged the imputation that I have exaggerated conditions in Clarke County.

John S. Graham.

Jackson, Ala., December 21, 1912.

IS CRIME ON THE INCREASE

Editor The Advertiser:

In the First Epistle general of John we find the following statement: "And the whole world lieth in wickedness." This statement was made over eighteen hundred years ago—when people knew but little of the Christian religion. We have lived on and on and on, until the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been preached to nearly every creature and yet, if John were living today, he could truthfully say, "The whole world lieth in wickedness."

Crime is, in my opinion, greatly on the increase throughout the world, and especially so in the United States. Some think that increased population and increased facilities for obtaining news accounts for the seeming increase in crime, but it strikes me that this is not a true explanation of the situation. It is said that "no man was ever wicked without secret discontent." This may account for the wickedness throughout the land. It is said that "discontented citizens make bad subjects." This is a fast age. Our people are discontented; they want what they have not and they want it when they want it. Every man is striving to reach the goal of his ambition, for "each individual seeks a several goal." Not a day passes, nay, not an hour passes, that there is not recorded an account of some heinous crime committed somewhere throughout the land. There have been more diabolical crimes committed throughout our country in the last twelve months than ever before in the same length of time since civilization began. Here, in good old Clarke County, some of the most heinous crimes have been committed—some of them, unmentionable crimes. Our Circuit Court convened on the 2nd day of this month and upon its docket were found more felony cases than ever appeared on any former occasion and some of them of the most hellish type. There was one case, the parallel of which, perhaps, cannot be found upon the records of any court in the land. A man and his wife, or a man assisted by his wife, committed a criminal assault on a girl 14 years of age. The man a brute and his wife lower than the lowest of animals. The man got ninety-nine years in the penitentiary and his wife ten years. And this punishment is not commensurate, some think, with the crime they committed. The next case in heinousness was a joint indictment of a white woman and negro man, charged with murdering a new born babe, the offspring of the twain. A severance was demanded and the negro man was put upon trial. He was convicted and sentenced to be hanged by the neck until dead, sometime next month. The woman is yet to be tried. When the babe was born, the negro man took it away and dropped it into a nearby lake, where, later, he led a crowd of white men and pointed out to them the lifeless form, in a sack weighted down with a twenty-three pound rock. The woman will be given a trial in January next, at an adjourned term of court. Besides the charge of murder, there is a charge of incest against the parties. There were other cases of less gravity, however, disposed of at this term of the court. There was a conviction in every case that was tried. A woman was convicted for carrying saws into the jail and giving them to her husband, who was being held to await the action of the grand jury for cow stealing. The husband was given about six years—two at hard labor and four years in the penitentiary and his wife two years hard labor and additional time to pay cost. When court convened the jail was filled almost to overflowing with people, black and white, men and women, charged with rape, murder, robbery, burglary, incest, perjury, grand larceny, bigamy, etc. The docket was not cleared and an adjourned term will be held, commencing the 28th day of January, 1913. There are a number of persons still in jail awaiting trial and more will likely be incarcerated before the adjourned term begins. The punishment meted out to the offenders last week should be sufficient to deter others from breaking the law, but it seems that when a man has a hankering to travel the downward road to ruin nothing will block his way. The grand jury returned about seventy true bills at this term of the court, and no doubt some of them are ugly cases. There were several ugly cases carried over for the adjourned term. The way of the transgressor in Clarke County is going to be hard from now on, judging by the verdict of the last court. "All that do wickedly shall be stubble." Mal. iv.

John S. Graham.

Jackson, Ala., Dec. 17, 1912.

MR. GRAHAM'S LETTER.

The Advertiser publishes on this page an astonishing letter from Hon John S. Graham on crime in Clarke county. It is a revolting situation which he pictures and which he sets out does not exist exclusively in Clarke county. It is difficult for The Advertiser to believe that in one county there can be any such condition of crime, as presented by Mr. Graham. But if the condition is such as Mr. Graham describes, it is deplorable, and demanding of notice and attention, but it does not necessarily mean that the world is tumbling heels over head to destruction.

For one thing crime is not smothered up as it once was in our section. Again the avenues of communication and publicity which are open now and which were not known a few years ago. More crimes are made public and more criminals are tried than in the past, but it does not necessarily follow that this is more criminal era, according to the population, than that of a generation ago.

On the surface, it appeared a few months ago that the city of Montgomery was beset by crime and criminals. The truth was bad enough, but Montgomery was not overrun with criminals, and it was not engulfed in a crime wave. As a matter of fact, the city was on the up-grade. Public sentiment was aroused; the light of publicity was turned on, and Montgomery officials went determinedly about the task of remedying conditions. Many people were astonished at the revelations, but not those who knew. But remedies were applied and the moral atmosphere, to some degree, was cleared. We have a long way to go yet, but we have made a distinct advance. In Clarke county, doubtless, they are revealing and trying to cure conditions which were hushed up and glossed over in other years.

We are not so pessimistic as Mr. Graham. We do not think that crime is greatly on the increase, or that we are a decadent people. But he is right in sounding his note of warning. There is work for every patriotic citizen to do, in building up a public sentiment which will drive out criminals and lessen crime to its minimum. The work needs to be done.

ADMONITION FROM TUSKEGEE.

Booker T. Washington says in the course of his letter: "During all the years that I have lived in Alabama I have never carried a concealed weapon. I have never kept one in my house and I have never felt the need of one. I have traveled through all parts of the South by night and by day and have never felt that I have been in the least danger, and if I had, I am quite sure I should not have been protected by reason of carrying a pistol."

This calls to mind the remark of a traveller who had visited remote regions in all parts of the world. When asked about the risks he confidently replied that "the man who acts like a gentleman is safe anywhere."

NEGRO TESTIFIES HE WAS FINED HEAVILY BY DEMENT

Had $175 in Pocket and Was Relieved of Same After Being Tried

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Feb. 11.—Frank V. Evans, special Examiner of Accounts for the State, who is making an investigation into the books and affairs of the office of Ira C. Dement, Justice of the Peace at Lewisburg, Beat 22, Jefferson County, will not be ready to make a formal report to the Governor until next week. He is still examining witnesses. This morning he had, among others, a negro named Fremont Anderson, who works and resides at New Castle, a short distance removed from Lewisburg. He swore that on warrants sworn out by his sister-in-law he was arrested by Constable W. W. Ellard, now deceased, (was shot to death) and was carried before Justice Dement. Before leaving New Castle the Superintendent of the Mines offered to make bond for the negro, but he remarked that he had $175 in his clothing and with that he believed he could pay all costs. He swore that on the way to Lewisburg the constable relieved him of the money and at the court two cases were made out against him and he was fined $175.

Makes Complaint.

He complained to a white man he met who advised him to come into the city and make formal complaint. Because of fear of Constable Ellard the negro did not make the complaint.

"Why, Mr. Ellard did not like niggers anyway and if I had made the complaint he would have slipped to New Castle and would have killed me. No sir, I would make no complaint against Mr. Ellard. I would rather have lost my money than my life. As to Mr. Dement, I wasn't afraid of him. He didn't do anything to niggers or anybody else 'dept fine them for their money." No statement is made as to what the special examiner is going to report to the Governor.

The special representatives of the Department of Justice watching this investigation report that they are on the track of what looks like a case of peonage, but no talk is being indulged in. One of the representatives has hunted up the records of Chug Cook, a negro, who is in the county jail on a charge of killing another negro in Beat 22, and who is to be given a trial in the Criminal Court during the week of February 26.

Crime — 1912

ALABAMA CONVICT LABOR
PROFITABLE TO THE STATE UNDER CHANGED SYSTEM.

BY ARTHUR M. EVANS.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 29.—In Alabama the criminal class is made a financial asset instead of a burden for the state. The state prisons are on a paying basis—last year $400,000 was cleared, above all expenses, from the labor of the convicts. Within the last few years the old leasing system under which convicts were rented out in droves to contractors has been abandoned. The state now handles the convict labor itself in state convict camps under guard of state employes. Instead of renting the men it sells the labor itself to mines, mills and farms. This may appear as a somewhat fine spun differentiation, but in fact it marks the difference between an ancient system that had many attendant inhumanities and a new system that is accomplishing jail reform in Alabama. The state is still in the paradoxical position of making a profit from crime, of gathering dividends from something which it is trying to suppress and eradicate, but it has abandoned the old scheme of leasing convicts as chattles and has placed its prison management on a new plane.

Not that life is made a bed of roses for the convict in Alabama; far from it, as the most enthusiastic advocates of the new regime hasten to add, but the old conditions under which contractors worked men until they dropped from exhaustion, driving criminals. In Alabama there are no labor troubles to speak of, and little labor organization, and so far there has been little protest against the competition of convict labor.

In addition to the cotton mill the state operates three farms and four mine camps. It receives from $3 to $4 for each convict that works in the coal mines, and the men labor by the piece instead of by the hour. After a convict gets out his specified quota of coal he is allowed either to knock off work or to continue work, the amount received for his overtime labors being placed to his credit. Many of the convicts, according to members of the convict board, have bank accounts, and when released they leave prison with money in their pocket. Officials of the board unanimously declare that most of the convicts worked in the mines are given such labor by their own desire, they preferring work in the mines to toil in the sun on the farms or work in the cotton mill, where it is day work instead of piece task.

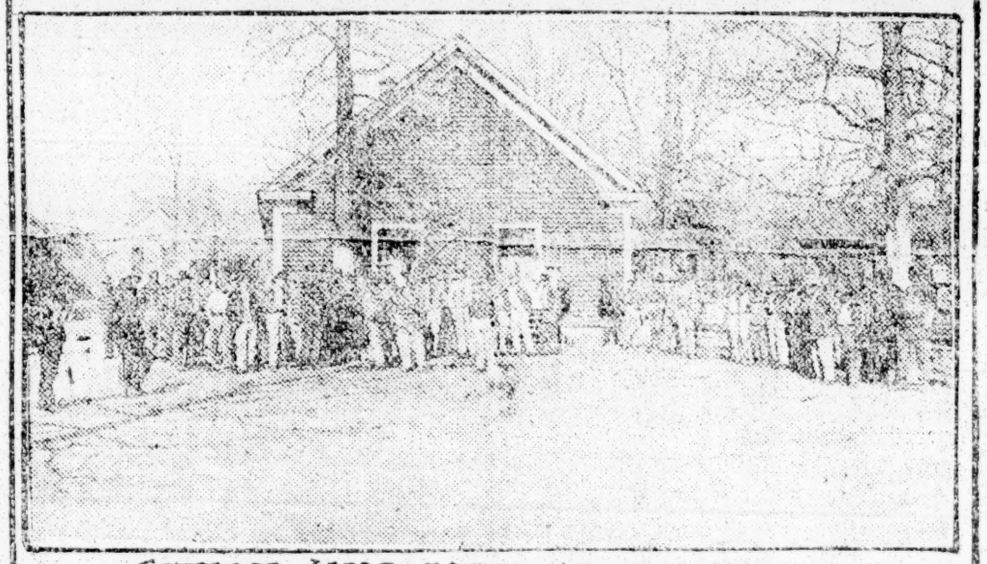
In the four years from Sept. 1, 1906, to Sept. 1, 1910, the state netted $1,173,719 from its convicts. Its main receipts were:

From convict hire	$2,720,045
From cotton mill	450,779
From crops sold and other sources	259,580

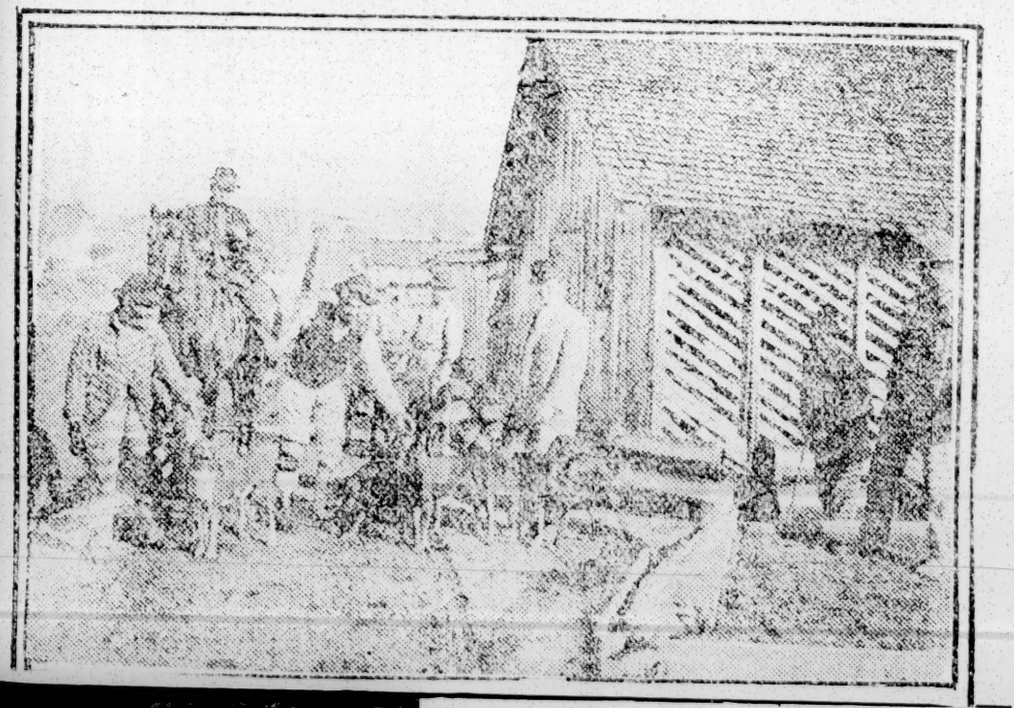
The expenditures amounted to $2,269,072, including $515,475 for the cotton mill; $357,000 for salaries and $1,177,530 for the maintenance of the convicts and permanent improvements.

This was under the old leasing system, and the net income from the convicts averaged $293,000 a year; last year, under the new system, they aggregated $400,000, showing that Alabama's prison reform is profitable to the state as well as beneficial to the convicts.

BLOOD HOUNDS AT WETUMPKA



COTTON MILL FORM AT SPEIGNER



them to their tasks with blacksnake whips, have been removed, the old barbarities of which much has been written from time to time have been eliminated, and the state authorities now maintain that Alabama for some years has not been fairly subject to reproach for the manner in which it handles its criminal classes.

* * * * *

Of the 2,500 convicts in the state only 675 are now leased out to contractors. Three of these leases, embracing a total of 475 men who work in sawmills, will expire next year, while the last of the contracts, which cover 200 men in the coal mines at Belle Ellen, will expire Jan. 1, 1914. Up to quite recent times the opinion has prevailed among criminologists that Alabama's penitentiary system is perhaps the most illustrious example in America of what such a system should not be, but under the present system the old abuses are being remedied. Up to a year or two ago the prisons at Wetumpka and Speigner, one of which has been in use for seventy years and the other for twenty, had no facilities for the bathing of the 600 inmates beyond tin washpans and washtubs. Despite the prevalence of tuberculosis among the negro convicts, who form five-sixths of the total number, there was no hospital for the treatment and segregation of the consumptives; there was no sanitation, no facilities for even minor surgical operations; the conditions were pronounced nothing short of horrible. This was in the prisons; in the convict camps conditions were even worse.

In the last few years, however, these evils have been remedied. At Wetumpka, the main prison, separate hospital quarters were provided for tubercular convicts, a sanitary system was installed, while work is now progressing on a well appointed tubercular hospital. Wetumpka has been turned into a receiving prison, a quarantine station for the convicts. Each new convict is placed under medical treatment as soon as he is received. 75 per cent of them are suffering from disease when sent to prison and is brought into good physical shape before he is sent into the convict farms, the mines, the mills or the turpentine camps.

At Speigner the state has its own cotton mill, worked by convicts. A dam is being built across Mortar Creek, from which

* * * * *

The hunting of escaped convicts with bloodhounds has been a favorite theme with writers on the Alabama penitentiary system. Officials of the convict board assert that there has been much exaggeration and that in ten years only one convict has been killed while trying to elude recapture. When the bloodhounds get near an escaped convict, they declare, he climbs a tree and is taken without trouble. He is punished by being whipped. Under the new order the whipping is administered only by the warden of the prison, and it is done with a flat strap in place of the whip that used to draw the blood. Escapes are decreasing since the state abolished the leasing system. Despite the bloodhounds, the chances stand about four to one for the full escape of a convict who has managed to break from the guards. Of 223 men who escaped in the four years from 1906 to 1910 only sixty-five were recaptured, while two were killed. In the same period eight were killed while trying to escape.

* * * * *

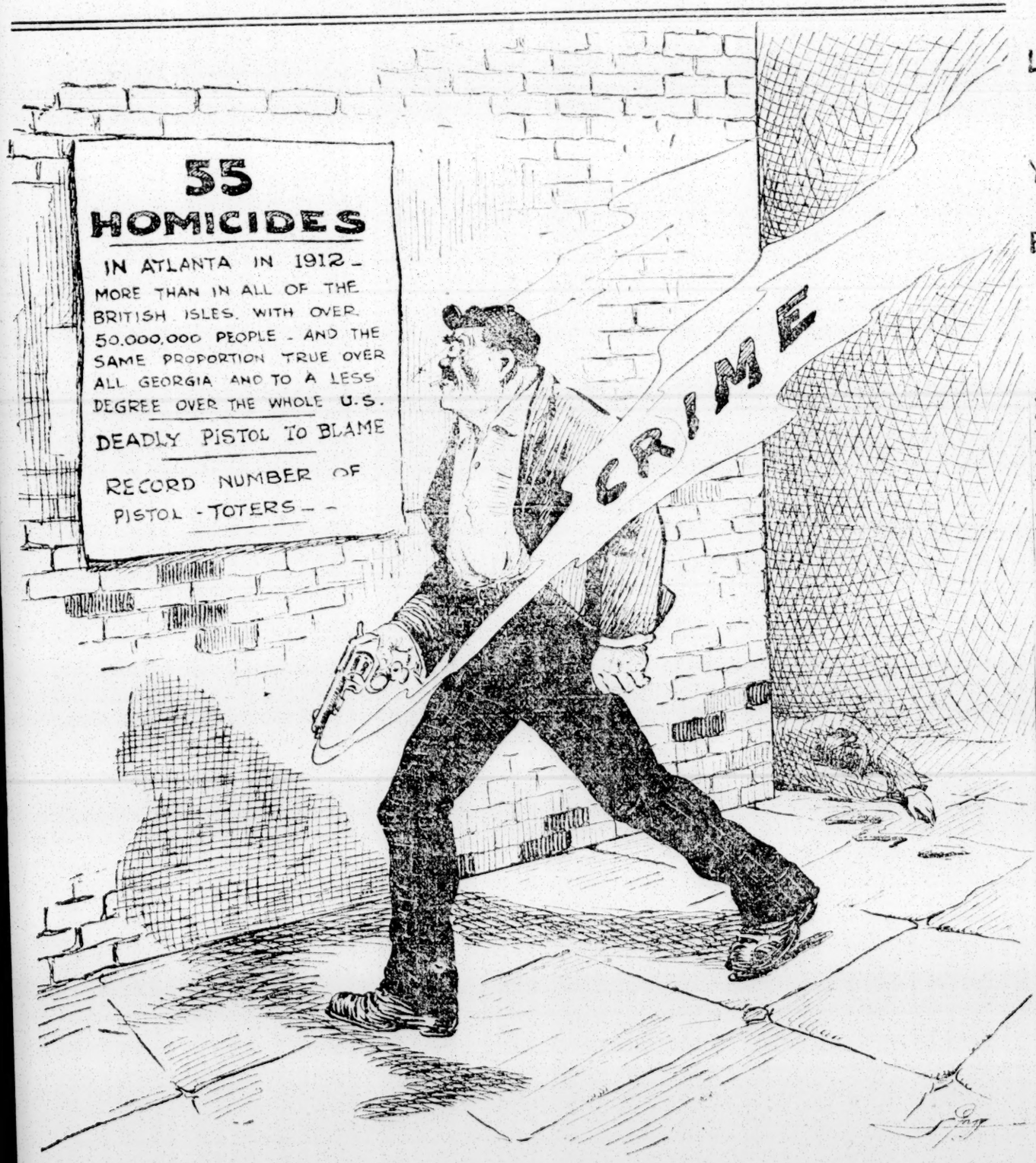
"Alabama's penitentiary system," said Governor Emmet O'Neal, in discussing the subject, "seems subject to misconception at times. The convicts are no longer leased to the contractors, but are handled by the state. Conditions in Alabama are such that the state is able to divert the labor of the convicts into profitable channels. In Georgia the convicts are worked on the roads. In Alabama we have mines, and can work many of them there. This state has perhaps the most desperate class of convicts in the country. They have to be held with a strong grip. We do not seek to make life in prison a picnic outing for the prisoners, but the state does strive to treat its convicts with all humaneness. Some persons perhaps entertain the idea that to work the convicts in the mines is like sentencing them to the salt mines of Siberia, but as a matter of fact the prisoners prefer working in the mines to laboring on the prison farms. In the mines it is piece work, and a man can often get through his labors in a few hours, while if he is disposed to work overtime he is able to accumulate money for himself. Before they are put to work they have to

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

power is to be derived for a modern plant, and when the power is developed and the equipment is used the state will derive increased profits from the handling of its

spend some time at the receiving prison at Wetumpka, where they are built up physically before they are placed at arduous tasks."

IT'S 1913, MR. LAWMAKER!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HOMICIDES
IN ATLANTA IN 1912 -
MORE THAN IN ALL OF THE BRITISH ISLES. WITH OVER 50,000,000 PEOPLE - AND THE SAME PROPORTION TRUE OVER ALL GEORGIA AND TO A LESS DEGREE OVER THE WHOLE U.S.
DEADLY PISTOL TO BLAME
RECORD NUMBER OF PISTOL - TOTERS - -
CRIME

$1,073,286.16 GOES TO STATE FROM CONVICTS

Crime

Last Quarter Shows Yield of $321,197.72

YEAR'S GAIN $16,456.93

President Oakley Issues Annual Statement as Preliminary to Report 10/3/12

The ~~month~~ Montgomery Advertiser

A check for $321,197.72 was sent to the State treasury Wednesday by J. G. Oakly, president of the State Convict Board, as the amount of gross earnings of the convict department for the final quarter of the fiscal year, which ended September 30.

A statement compiled from the books of the department show earnings for the fiscal year amounting to $1,073,296.16, against $1,056,839.23 for the year preceding. The comparative figures reveal the fact that the year just closed has been one of the most successful in the history of the department. One hundred convicts, for the hire of which about $30,000 would have accrued to the State, were used by the State on the No. 4 farm on Lower Wetumpka Road, and were employed by private concerns at no time of the year.

The investment of convict labor on the farm will be profitable, Chairman Oakley thinks. Although the profit will not show in this year's report, it will be revealed in the next, when returns from the corn and cotton raised on No. 4 are derived, he says. About 50,000 bushels of corn and 800 or 900 bales of cotton will be produced through the work of the 100 prisoners.

Most of the returns to the department come from the hire of convicts by concerns operating mines in the Birmingham district. A fair proportion of the receipts is derived from hire of prisoners by the lumber companies of South Alabama, and some profit is found in the sale of cotton goods products of the mill at Speigners.

The receipts for the two years, by quarters, are:

Fiscal year 1910-1911: first quarter, $261,213.89; second, $258,979.70; third, $251,190.22; fourth, $285,455.48. Total, $1,056,839.23.

Fiscal year 1911-1912: first quarter, $270,030.14; second $226,206.46, third; $255,861.84; fourth, $321,197.72. Total $1,073,296.16.

With the receipt of the last quarterly payment of the convict department, the books of the treasurer were closed for the year.

Crime 1912

TAYLOR AND STEPHENS HELD FOR KILLING NEGRO

Bond of $5,000 Fixed by Judge M. H. Screws

EYE-WITNESSES TESTIFY

White Men Say Black Was Shot in Back Near Washington Park

Mont. Adv. 8-21-12.

W. H. Taylor and W. C. Stephens were ordered held to the next grand jury under bond of $5,000 on a charge of killing Arthur Turner, a negro, Judge M. H. Screws, of the Inferior Court, heard the evidence Friday afternoon. Taylor was also ordered held under bond of $500 for shooting William Holland, another negro.

Charity Harris, alias Huffman, a negro woman, and Stephens, were discharged in the latter case. The three were arrested several weeks ago following a shooting scrape near Washington Park, when the two white men were alleged to have terrorized the neighborhood while in a drunken condition. The negro woman was immediately re-arrested on a warrant charging assault and battery.

In outlining the State's case, Solicitor Scibels stated that it proposed to show that the two defendants went to that section of the city in an intoxicated condition, and that before the shooting, one of them, who had been intimate with the negro woman, Charity Harris, heard of a difficulty that she had had with a negro man named Joe Norman. He stated that he proposed to show that Stephens had made threats against the latter and that this was the cause of the shooting.

Eyewitnesses Testify.

Several witnesses testified they saw Taylor shoot Turner, who died as a result of his wounds the following day. Probably the most important of these was C. L. Lee, who testified that he saw Taylor and Stephens standing on the opposite side of the road, the former having a rifle in his hand. He stated that a negro woman accompanied by a negro man, came along. Just as they got opposite the two white men, he said, Stephens stepped off of the road and said something to Taylor, who drew the rifle to his shoulder and shot the negro man in the back. He said that the latter ran for some distance and fell, and that he was later informed by another person that he was dead.

J. R. Williamson, a white man, told practically the same story. He further said that just after the police arrived Turner was asked if he knew who shot him. Just then, he said, Stephens bent over the wounded man and asked him if he had fired the shot. The negro replied in the negative.

Williamson further testified that fifteen or twenty minutes later he heard another shot and a dog howl. He said that this was followed shortly by another shot but that he was not close enough to see who had fired the gun.

Thomas Woman Testified.

Mamie Thomas, a negro woman, claimed she was assaulted by Taylor, Stephens and the Harris women, who endeavored to get her to leave the community. The Thomas woman said she was walking down the road with Turner when he was shot from behind. She admitted that she was so excited after this that she did not have a clear recollection of what transpired. She was assaulted later by the two men and woman, because, she testified, they thought she knew too much.

In his argument Solicitor Scibels said he did not consider the defendants entitled to bond unless they were so drunk that they did not know what they were doing. He reviewed the evidence and said he thought they were sober enough to account for their actions, but that they went out in a spirit to kill any negro that got in their way.

Attorney Wiley Hill, for the defense, sought to have the charges changed from murder to manslaughter. He contended that the evidence was not strong enough for them to be held for murder, and he further stated that the testimony showed that Stephens was not a party to the shooting. He asked bail for Taylor and that the other two be discharged.

Ga. Jackson 8-30-12

That the verdict of the jury in the Boggs-Worley case was quite a surprise to the community and a shock to those who had even a slight acquaintance with the circumstances of the case is shown by the following editorials in the two daily papers:

Sav.

What the Cou[illegible] Said

The Savannah Press is loth to believe that a mere question of race prejudice determined the verdict in the Boggs-Worley case. There is no tension between the races in Savannah and never has been. Before the law all men are supposed to be equal, and the crime of shedding human blood is not mitigated because of the fact that the victim was a Negro. In the former trial of this case one of the young men was promptly convicted of murdering the old colored man and was sentenced to the penitentiary for life. He got off very light then, and when the supreme court sent back the case to be tried upon a technicality of the law The Savannah Press unhesitatingly expressed its disappointment and that of the community. One of the justices of that court laid down his estimate of the crime in no uncertain manner. Mr. Justice Lumpkin then said in his dissenting opinion:

"One ding that the admission of evidence of a witness as to the peaceable character of the deceased was erroneous. I do not think a reversal should result It would not be advisible to enter into a full discussion of the case as it is to be returned for a new trial. Suffice it to say that the evidence showed a shocking case of murder. Testimony in behalf of the defendant showed that he and his comrade rode into the country in a hired automobile at night, killed the owner, sold the automobile, concealed their identity and fled: and that at the time the deceased was killed he had gotten out of the automobile on the ground and had no weapon then with him. As to these facts there was no dispute, although the accused and his witness insisted that the deceased was the assailant"

As we understand it no new evidence was introduced In fact, no evidence at all was offered for the defense. The prisoners simply made their statements, trusting to the improbable theory of self defense and strange to say they were acquitted. We do not know that much good comes from criticising the verdict of the jury. We have done it before: but once more we desire to say that we cheerfully share in the surprise and disappointment felt in this community over the verdict of acquittal of these young fellows. To allow men like these to go unwhipped of justice is an outrage upon the community, an insult to the law and justice. The courts and community have suffered from this verdict, and yet we are powerless to do more than protest. This, however, we will continue to do.—Savannah Press.

A Surprising Verdict

The people of this city were surprised and shocked by the verdict in the case against Hugh Boggs and John Willis Worley who were charged with the murder of Jasper H. Turner, a Negro who owned and operated an automobile. They feel that it is a reproach to the community.

The killing of Turner occurred a year ago and in the public mind there had been no doubt that he had been murdered until the jury acquitted the men who admitted they killed him in self defense. One of the accused men was tried and convicted of murder a number of months ago, but the verdict was set aside by the Supreme Court on a technicality.

This week the defendents were tried jointly, but no new evidence was introduced in their behalf In fact, they put in no evidence, the defense relying wholly on the statements of the defendants. The solicitor general felt that he made out a complete case against the accused men and said so, and yet it seems the jury had a doubt, a doubt which it considered reasonable, and so the accused go free of the charge

The public cannot protest if the jury believed there was a reasonable doubt of the guilt of the defendants, but we venture to say that the feeling throughout the community is that there was a miscarriage of justice, that the jury gave too much weight to the stories of the accused men and the arguments in their behalf.

It was admitted that they killed Turner, but the plea was that they acted in self defense. Then why did they conceal the body, sell the automobile and hide from the authorities? We question if the reasonable doubt of the jury is shared by any considerable number of people in this community where there was the greatest indignation when the killing of Turner was discovered.

And in this connection it isn't out of place to say a word about the technicalities. If the Supreme Court had handled the Worley case from the standpoint of securing substantial justice instead of stressing so strongly a technicality the outcome of the charge against the accused men might have been different. The new trial in the case of Worley and the delay were not without their influence and this influence was undoubtedly in the favor of the defendants. The young men may consider themselves exceedingly fortunate in escaping a charge that was supported by such strong evidence.—Morning News

JONES AND WATSON ARE SENTENCED TO BE HANGED

They Were Convicted of Killing John Holland, a Negro

APPEAL WILL BE TAKEN

Judge Cahalan at Birmingham Overrules Motion for New Trial

Mont. Adv. 6-8-12

Special to The Advertiser.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., June 8—Convicted of the killing of John Holland, a negro, on Cat Mountain, in the western part of Jefferson County, on June 16, last, Arthur Jones and Will Watson, white, were today sentenced to be hanged by the neck until dead, on July 19, by Judge Frank Cahalan.

The sentence was suspended pending an appeal to the Supreme Court. Prior to the sentencing, Judge Cahalan heard arguments on the motion for a new trial presented by Julius Davison in behalf of Watson.

Mr. Davidson presented affidavits of several people who claim to have seen Watson in Birmingham on June 16. He also argued on some of the exceptions that were taken during the trial. Judge Cahalan overruled the motion for a new trial.

After fixing the date of the execution, Judge Cahalan addressed the two men, telling them that while he did not care to dispel any hope that they might have as to ultimate escape from the sentence, he did hope that they would, in the time allotted to them, try for spiritual consolation and prepare themselves to meet their deaths and their Maker. The silence that prevailed in the court while the sentence was being imposed was intense.

Walter Jones Not Sentenced.

Walter Jones, who was convicted for the murder of L. B. Evans, in the Lewisburg neighborhood, was not sentenced today, Judge Greene leaving the court house early, upon being informed that the attorneys in Jones's case would not be ready.

Thomas (Tobe) A. Duncan, convicted for the killing of Felix J. Ellard, on the Lewisburg road on March 18, last, the jury fixing life in the penitentiary, was not sentenced today. His attorneys will put in a motion for a new trial Wednesday, before Judge Cahalan, and if this motion is overruled, an appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court.

Julius Majors, a negro, convicted for murder, was sentenced to life in the penitentiary. Walter Ewing, convicted for larceny from person, was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

NEGRO IS KILLED BY YOUNG WHITE FARMER

Mont. Adv. 9-2-12

Crosswhite Says Brawley Forced Him Out of Road and Struck at Him

TUSCUMBIA, ALA., Feb. 1.—John Crosswhite, a young farmer residing two miles north of Leighton, this county, 23 years old, surrendered to the sheriff of Colbert county this morning, after having shot and killed Spencer Brawley, a negro, of the same neighborhood, yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock. There were no witnesses to the tragedy, the dead negro and the young white man who did the killing being the only persons present.

Crosswhite claims that the negro, who was riding in a wagon, forced him out of the road and attempted to strike him with the butt end of a heavy driving whip, when he shot him twice with a revolver.

Crosswhite is a small man physically, while Brawley was a powerful negro. The farmer is a young man of good reputation and family and has always been considered quiet and peaceful. The negro is said to have been high tempered and bore the reputation of being quarrelsome and always ready for trouble. This is the third killing in the Leighton neighborhood within the last sixty days, two white men and one negro.

DISCHARGED NEGRO KILLS TWO WHITES

He Fatally Wounds Another And Is Himself Slain

Mond. Adv. 4-5-12

HOISINGTON, KANS., April 4.—Two men were killed and three others injured, one probably fatally, at the Missouri Pacific shops here tonight when "Bill" Smith, a discharged negro employe, engaged in a revolver fight with shop employes. Mortally wounded, Smith was rescued by officers from a crowd intent upon lynching him.

The dead are "Bill" Smith, Charles Loven, a watchman.

C. W. Layman will die from wounds. Smith was discharged yesterday. Tonight he appeared at the shops and announced he was going to kill somebody. When Watchman Loven warned him to remain away Smith shot and killed the watchman and wounded Layman, who was standing near.

Shop employes rushed to the aid of their fellows, shooting at the negro, who returned their fire as he retreated. Two bystanders were wounded by stray bullets. Smith was shot several times and fell mortally wounded. Despite his condition leaders of a crowd that gathered helped him to his feet and amid cries of "lynch him" were hurrying him away when officers arrived and assuring the crowd the negro would be given a speedy trial if he recovered took him in charge.

Smith died in a few minutes.

NEGRO FARM HAND SHOT BY BUTCHER AT EUFAULA

Man Is Said to Have Advanced Upon the Proprietor at Time

Mont Adv. 3-3-12

EUFAULA, ALA., March 2.—Jesse Sheets, white, a butcher, shot and killed Oscar Wilson, a negro farm hand employed on the Foy plantation near Eufaula, at 6 o'clock this afternoon, the shooting taking place at a blacksmith shop in the outskirts of the city, to which Sheets and his brother had gone to have some work done.

Wilson entered the shop with a request to have a check cashed, presenting it to Jesse Sheets, who returned it with the remark that it was blank. This angered the negro, who next indicated a desire to purchase liquor. Upon being told that none was for sale at the blacksmith shop his anger increased, according to report, and he advanced threateningly on Jesse Sheets, reaching, it is alleged, for a weapon as he did so. The white man fired upon the advancing black, killing him almost instantly.

Sheets immediately surrendered to the police. He is in jail, but it is believed that he will be released on bail before morning.

NEGRO COMMITS BRUTAL MURDER; KILLED LATER

Perry Wilkerson, of Cuba, Ala., Brained With Axle.

SLAYER MAKES ESCAPE

Persued by Posse Who Wounded Him Causing Death During Night

Mont. Adv. 12-22-12

Special to The Advertiser.

CUBA, ALA., Dec. 21.—Perry Wilkerson, a jeweler, was brutally murdered here Friday night for the purpose of robbery by a negro, just as he was entering his front gate. After knocking Mr. Wilkerson down with a buggy axle, the desperado commenced rifling his pockets and did not stop until Mrs. Wilkerson was within four feet of him. The murder occurred on the main street of the town with the moon shining brightly.

The deceased was afflicted with rheumatism, and was barely able to get from his home to his jewelry repair shop, where he was able to work well enough when he could sit down. He died within about two hours after being knocked down, never regaining consciousness. The screams of Mrs. Wilkerson attracted the attention of Bob Tate, who was passing on his way home to supper, and he gave chase, following the negro for about three blocks, the negro finally eluding him, but was later captured by another negro, Coly Webb, in front of the home of W. A. Waddell, the town clerk.

Assisted Marshal.

This negro, Coly Webb, was assisting the marshal, J. A. Upchurch, to take the murderer to the calaboose, and there were soon surrounded by a large crowd of citizens, who felt that summary vengeance should be taken, but who offered no overt act.

Taking advantage of the crowd, the negro sent a smashing blow to the cheek and nose of the marshal, succeeding in breaking his nose and in the crowd ran up the street in a northerly direction. The blow was so sudden that the blood spurted in the eye of the marshal so that he could not draw his pistol to shoot, and in the crowd others feared that one of the citizens might be shot. This gave the desperado a good lead, but he was quickly followed by the posse, who shot as they ran, but lost track of the negro who escaped in thick undergrush near the road. This morning his dead body was found near the road, the supposition being that shots from the posse took effect while he was eluding the officers and his death resulted therefrom.

Public Quiet.

The public is quiet this morning and great pleasure is expressed that the murderer did not get away, while the negro, Coly Webb, who aided the officer, is coming for much praise for his conduct in upholding the law.

The dead negro was but little known here, having been in the town but a few weeks. He was never known to work but always seemed to have money, and the general feeling is that he was the negro responsible for several burglaries that have occurred in this community. Mr. Wilkerson was buried this afternoon in the town cemetery, where his body was followed by a large circle, who deplored his untimely end.

Officials of the sheriff's department who came down during the night to aid in the apprehension of the criminal, returned this morning after learning that the negro was found dead. At this hour the coroner's inquest has not been held, but it is stated that witnesses will be summoned and full investigation made. The marshal, A. J. Upchurch, is out this morning somewhat the worse for wear.

TEN BARRICADED NEGROES CAPTURED; QUIET RESTORED

Mont. Adv. 7-29-12

Plainville, Ga., Spends Night Exchanging Shots with Blacks.

PLAINVILLE, GA., July 28.—Ten negroes who had barricaded themselves in a cabin were captured today and quiet restored here after an all night battle between the whites and blacks. Sheriff Owens of Calhoun, Ernest Johnson of Calhoun and Dr. Miller of Plainville, all of whom were shot by the negroes, are resting easily. Johnson is the only one seriously injured.

When Sheriff Owen's forces were reinforced early this morning by a posse of deputies under Sheriff Danchoo of Floyd County, they stormed the house in which the negroes had taken refuge. The blacks were well armed and an exchange of shots was kept up until daylight, when a rush was made and the negroes captured.

The prisoners were placed in jail at Calhoun. No attempts at lynching were made but several negroes were badly beaten by infuriated whites before the officers could control the crowd. None of the negroes was seriously injured and no further trouble is anticipated.

The battle was precipitated by an attempt to arrest a party of negroes who were suspected of forming a plot to burn the town after the trouble between the races Saturday, in which several blacks were whipped and ordered from town.

WHITE MAN WHO KILLED NEGRO WOMAN DISAPPEARS

Mont. Adv. 8-17-12

Special to The Advertiser.

CARROLLTON, ALA., Aug. 16.—The preliminary trial of Walter Wilcox, which was to have been held yesterday, was postponed on account of the defendant having disappeared. Wilcox shot a negro woman at Ethelville, this county, several weeks ago and was put under bond of $1,000, which he readily made and was released. The negro woman seemed to be in a fair way to recover from the wounds, and the preliminary investigation was set for the 15th. However, the woman died the night previous to the trial.

John W. Harper died at an early hour yesterday morning at his home near Reform after an illness extending several months. Mr. Harper was about 60 years old and was a prominent citizen in the community in which he resided. Interment will occur at Reform this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

WHITE MAN IS KILLED IN FIGHT WITH NEGROES

King and Harding Started Disturbance at Camp Meeting.

Mont Adv. 6-12-12

Special to The Advertiser.

CARLISLE, ALA., June 11.—Major King, aged 55 years, was killed, Wiley Harding, aged 30 years, was fatally wounded, and one negro woman was killed outright and two other negresses wounded, Sunday afternoon in the interior of Marshall County.

News of the tragedy was just received here today. The negroes were holding a camp meeting when King and Harding, white men, started a disturbance. The negroes opened fire on King, putting sixteen bullets into his body. Harding started to run, firing into the negroes as he went. His fire was returned, and he was shot through the abdomen and intestines. He cannot live. Four negroes have been arrested, and are confined in the Marshall County jail at Guntersville.

NEGRO FATALLY SHOT BY SHEFFIELD MERCHANT

Pounders Said to Have Struck Belue Several Times Before Latter Fired

Mont. Adv. 2-10-12

SHEFFIELD, ALA., Feb. 9.—A. L. Belue, a well known merchant of Florence Hill, this city, this afternoon shot and fatally wounded Will Pounders, a negro, in the former's store. The negro will die. Belue at once surrendered to the Sheriff.

The shooting was witnessed by the merchant's negro porter. It is said that Pounders had been stealing from Belue and when the latter remonstrated, he assaulted Belue with a stool, striking him several times over the head before he could secure his pistol from behind the counter, three shots from which he fired into the negro's body. Young Belue stands well in Sheffield and is considered quiet and peaceful.

NEGRO IS FATALLY SHOT IN FIGHT WITH OFFICERS

Mont. Adv. 9-13-12

BROOKSVILLE, FLA., Sept. 9.—Armstrong, a negro, was fatally wounded tonight in a clash between a posse and the band of armed negroes who yesterday recaptured eleven negro prisoners from three deputy sheriffs near here. A posse went from here to Terrell tonight where, it was learned, the negroes were.

The negroes did not stop resisting the posse until after Armstrong was wounded.

Chief Deputy Neal Law returned here tonight with six prisoners. Two negroes were arrested on the returning train, being recognized by the chief deputy as having been in the negro rescuing party yesterday.

Negroes around the turpentine still, where the clash occurred when the negro prisoners were rescued, have scattered, fearing further race trouble. It is now believed that the trouble is at an end.

NEGRO SHOT AND KILLED BY SHERIFF JONES

Mont. Adv. 2-18-12

Waters Resisted Arrest and Opened Fire, Forcing Officer to Protect Himself

CLANTON, ALA., Feb. 17.—Emmet Waters, a negro, was shot and killed by Sheriff Jones of this county, in a pistol duel at the negro's home near Maplesville.

Waters was wanted on two minor charges and when the Sheriff demanded that he surrender, the negro opened fire. Three shots were fired by the negro when the Sheriff brought his revolver into play. Waters was hit three times, a wound in the left breast causing his death.

WHITE MAN BEING HELD FOR KILLING OF NEGRO

Wetumpka Black's Skull Crushed by Blow from Singletree.

Advertiser 4-25-12

WETUMPKA, ALA., April 24.—John Grisham, a well known negro of Wetumpka, died this morning as a result of a blow on the head with a singletree in the hands of Ed Chapman, a well known white man of the Titus neighborhood. The negro's skull was crushed. Both men were in an establishment suspected of being a blind tiger. Chapman is being held in jail awaiting action by the grand jury.

BODY FOUND

Negro Riddled With Bullets Dies Near Cuba, Ala.

Mont Adv 12-28-12

MERIDIAN, MISS., Dec. 20.—Riddled with bullets, the body of an unidentified negro was found in a swamp near Cuba, Ala., twenty miles north of here, today. The negro last night sandbagged and instantly killed Perry Wilkinson, a jeweler, of that place. He was arrested, but escaped from the city marshal. The negro was pursued by a number of citizens, who fired a fusilade after him. It was thought he had escaped until his body was found today.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES RESEARCH